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Not so queer
The 16th annual International
Asian American Film Festival.
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BAY AREA REPORTER

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City Attorney Louise Renne.

Setback for SF's domestic partner law

Fed Ex doesn't have to comply
by Cynthia Laird

The city's landmark domestic partner benefits law suffered a legal setback last week when the federal judge who will rule on its legality granted a temporary restraining order barring the city from terminating a lease agreement with Federal Express, which refuses to comply with the ordinance. The ordinance specifies that companies contracting with the city must provide benefits to domestic partners of employees if they provide benefits to spouses; last year the Air Transport Association (ATA) filed suit against the city, seeks to overturn the measure.

Last October, both sides argued their case before U.S. District Court Judge Claudia Wilken, who has not yet issued her ruling. But on Friday, February 27, Wilken granted the temporary restraining order (TRO) and ordered a hearing for April 3.

Fed Ex balked at complying with the law and is in the process of negotiating a 10-year, \$18 million lease for space at San Francisco International Airport (SFO). The city had threatened to rent the space to a different tenant if Federal Express failed to comply with the law; Wilken's ruling nullifies that. A provision in the lease would have required the company to comply with the domestic partner benefits ordinance if Wilken upheld the law; Fed Ex would have been able to terminate the lease if the law is upheld but the company is unwilling to comply.

"Federal Express is asking to continue to discriminate even if the court upholds the ordinance," said City Attorney Louise Renne. "If this were about discrimination on the basis of

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TG fights to join SFPD

by Mark Mardon



The intrepid
Cristiana Daniela Rivas

Hate crimes fall in SF, continue to rise nationwide

SF violence shifts from adults to youth, Castro to Mission, Tenderloin

by Mark Mardon

Violence committed against queers 23 and older declined slightly in San Francisco last year, while acts against the younger, school-age set stepped up a bit. Also in 1997, the number of anti-queer hate crimes taking place in the Mission, Tenderloin, and South of Market neighborhoods outstripped the sum occurring in the Castro District, marking the first time in a decade that queers in the Castro have not been the main target for bashers.

Those conclusions are among the data contained in a major report released jointly by the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs (NCAVP) and Community United Against Violence (CUAV) Tuesday, March 3.

The report, *Anti-Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered Violence in 1997*, shows that across the country, while crime rates in general fell dramatically, hate-motivated vi-

olence against the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and HIV-positive (LGBTH) communities continued to increase. Nationally for 1997, anti-queer violence rose by two percent, following a six percent rise in 1996.

'Continuous violence'

According to NCAVP's summary of the report, much of last year's nationwide growth in anti-LGBTH crimes can be attributed to the increasing visibility of queers coupled with a lack of moral leadership at all levels of society, allowing leaders of the radical right to foster a climate homophobia across the continent.

Last year also saw a strong national trend toward more serial hate crimes, defined as "continuous violence and harassment by one offender against a single victim over a period of time," generally in and around the victim's home, community, or workplace. In such cases, the report adds, the perpetrators

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A former National Guardsman denied consideration for employment as a San Francisco police officer is threatening to sue the city unless the police department reverses its decision.

Christiana D. Rivas, 38, who until her sex change last August was known as Christian D. Rivas, said she breezed through the police department's written, oral, lie-detector, and physical exams, as well as a thorough background check, only to be disqualified on the basis of the department's psychological evaluation. That evaluation, she said, was unfair. To prove the point, she paid for an independent psychological examination, which she said she passed with flying colors.

"I don't think any individual should have to go through what I've gone through to prove that they're psychologically fit," said Rivas.

Rivas had fully expected to enter the police academy class starting January 26, but those hopes were dashed on January 3, when she got a certified letter from the SFPD's Consent Decree Division, notifying her of her failed psychological test.

"What, I throw my brush against the wall when I have a bad hair day?" wondered a mystified Rivas, who said she cannot account for the department's decision, which was never explained to her.

Anyone else with her qualifications would be a shoo-in to the police academy, said Rivas. She owns her own condominium, plays on gay basketball and soccer teams, was honorably discharged from the National Guard in 1985, where she (then still a man) had been a sergeant in a mechanized infantry unit, holds a BA in international relations and military affairs from San Francisco State University, and from 1992 till early this year was employed by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms.

A second generation San Franciscan who graduated from Sacred Heart High, Rivas said she had applied for entry into the police academy three times prior, during the 1980s. Twice she was rejected on the basis of poor eyesight, but has since had her sight surgically corrected. Later she was denied entry because of one-time cocaine use, but claims that was a college incident and has never been repeated, a fact she said she had satisfactorily demonstrated to the police department during the latest go-round. She said she does not drink, smoke, or do drugs.

Police department administrators familiar with the case deny Rivas was unfairly denied entry into the academy.

Julie Gonzales, head of the SFPD's Consent Decree Division, refused to comment

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Pop-culture studies form core of new Milk Institute classes

by Mark Mardon

From an exploration of "Homer-eroticism" in *The Simpsons*, to instruction in the basics of digital video production, to classes on stand-up comedy and improvisation, the Harvey Milk Institute (HMI) is now inaugurating its third year of queer education, this time with an emphasis on deconstructing (and even, in some cases, constructing) pop culture.

The San Francisco-based institute, which bills itself as "the world's largest center for queer studies," has just released its Spring 1998 course catalog and posted an elaborate website, each describing in detail more than 80 courses, workshops, conferences, and special events for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer communities, "as well as our progressive friends."

"During HMI's first three years, over 5,500 people have enrolled in our classes; this semester promises to be our most popular yet," said HMI Executive Director Kevin Schaub.

Schaub himself will facilitate a class titled "Looking for Mr. Smithers: Queerness in *The Simpsons*," which will examine the myriad queer references in the show throughout the 1990s.

"Sexual ambiguity and homoerotic relationships are often at the core of the show's humor," said Schaub.

For those seeking to express themselves on stage, performance artists Maureen Brownsey, David Mills, and Karen Ripley will lead students through a variety of theatrical techniques. Brownsey will teach "Queer Stand-Up Comedy," a practical, hands-on class that helps students develop a three to seven minute comedy routine. Ripley will improvise "The Magic of Improvisation," helping performers increase self-confidence, spontaneity, and trust, improve their public speaking, 'dare to fail,' and laugh their butts off. Mills (whose new show, *Duty Free*, be-



Lady luck: Jim Sparklepants calls out the numbers during HMI's recent second Drag Bingo and Back to School Night.

gins a two-week run at Intersection for the Arts tonight, March 5) will focus on "Personal Narrative as Solo Performance," examining techniques used in media and popular culture to bring students' personal narratives alive on stage.

Students wanting to document the queer experience can enroll in "Digital Video 101: Queers and the Cutting Edge," taught by Jeffrey Winter and Jose Guevara of Please Louise Productions. The class will examine the digital technologies "that are radically changing the form and content of today's media shooting." Instruction will include multimedia manipulation (digital/special effects), digital sets/environments (blue-screen, post-production compositing), and an introduction to editing on the Macintosh.

For lesbians who have been writing fiction and now want "to move themselves and their characters in new ways through unfamiliar territories," Elana Dykewomon will teach "Creating

Characters: Lesbian Fiction Writing."

Art lovers and museumgoers can check out HMI founder Jonathan Katz's tour of the upcoming Keith Haring Exhibit at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art. Katz will analyze "the often queer meanings and motivations behind the work within the context of the East Village art scene of the 1980's."

For a complete listing of course offerings at HMI, look for free catalogs available at more than 100 locations throughout San Francisco and the Bay Area, or browse the institute's website at www.sf.digitalcity.com/harvmilk.htm (America Online subscribers can access the site with the keyword "Harvey Milk").

"The next phase of queer liberation will unfold in the classroom," said Katz. "That education is politics, and that knowledge of our history, our culture, and our struggles is essential to our community's development." ▼

Hamilton Post settles discrimination lawsuit with American Legion

by Cynthia Laird

Arch Wilson, chief of litigation for the Alexander Hamilton Post 448 of the American Legion, announced that the post has settled its class action discrimination lawsuit against California and San Francisco parties of the American Legion. The Alexander Hamilton Post is believed to be the only one in the country whose membership is largely gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender war veterans.

The out of court settlement included payment of an undisclosed amount of money by the California Legion defendants to the Alexander Hamilton Post, without admission of liability on the part of any of the defendants. The defen-

dant legion units and individuals have also agreed to prohibit homophobic actions and statements in their offices and meetings, Wilson stated. Attorneys representing the post were James "Sean" Kennedy, Cynthia Connors, Richard Gayer, and Bruce Knickerson.

"While this settlement doesn't do much for gay and lesbian veterans on a national level, it can open a new era for us for improved relations with local straight legionnaires," Wilson told the B.A.R. "We are quite satisfied with the settlement."

The lawsuit arose nearly two years ago. In April 1996, after investigating complaints of the post, the city's Human Rights Commission (HRC) found that the California headquarters of the legion had discriminated against

the Hamilton Post. In the suit, the post also alleged a history of discrimination by units and individuals in the legion dating back to 1984 when the post applied for an American Legion charter.

During the "gays in the military" controversy of 1993, the post alleged that animosity toward the post and its members heightened, possibly fueled by the vociferous opposition of the American Legion against permitting gays to serve.

In February 1997, attorneys for the post added as defendants the legion's national headquarters and the San Francisco War Memorial Board of Trustees, alleging negligence by the latter in permitting discriminatory treatment of gay veterans in the War Memorial Veterans Building. ▼

Hearty handshake



The Rev. Jim Creech (left), a United Methodist minister facing trial before a church judicial body for performing same-sex commitment ceremonies, gets a hearty handshake from the Rev. Thomas Kimball at San Francisco's Metropolitan Community Church Feb. 28. Creech has been suspended from his duties at the First United Methodist Church in Omaha pending the outcome of the trial.

Sonoma community agrees to fund AEF, and vice versa

by Lois Pearlman

In a surprising turn of events, representatives from AIDS organizations and individual PWAs in Sonoma County last week agreed unanimously to raise funds to reinstate AIDS Emergency Fund (AEF) grants for local PWAs.

About one hour into a meeting held in Sebastopol Wednesday, February 25, where members of the Sonoma County HIV/AIDS community met with AEF officials from San Francisco, Face to Face Executive Director Andrea Learned asked for a commitment from participants, and everybody stood as a group.

"I don't think any one solution will work," said Learned. "I am not looking for the usual suspects to raise this money, I'm looking for the unusual suspects."

The meeting was called by Sonoma County AIDS activists, including AIDS Quilt founder Cleve Jones and Food for Thought founder Betsy Van Dyke, in response to the AEF's announcement that it would stop providing emergency grants for PWAs in all but a few Bay Area counties.

As of February 1, the San Francisco-based organization has eliminated grants for people with HIV/AIDS in all but four counties: San Francisco, San Mateo, Marin, and Alameda. The AEF gets federal Ryan White funds for the first three counties, and has a contract with Alameda County to provide the grants as long as the county continues to supply some of the money.

In an attempt to continue servicing such counties as Sonoma, Napa, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Solano, and Contra Costa, the agency last year reduced all of its grants to a maximum of \$400 per year. But, this year, AEF decided to boost the grants back up to \$500, and eliminate the counties that were not contributing their share.

"We were hardly able to help people meaningfully," said AEF Vice President Ken Turner, referring to the diminished grants.

Turner attributed the AEF's cutbacks to two factors: an increasing caseload due to clients living longer and more people moving to San Francisco; and the

end of two large donations that had kept the agency in the black during three years of deficit spending.

Starting this year, AEF officials have agreed to provide grants for the other counties only if they contribute at least 65 percent of the grant money. According to Turner, AEF has been footing most of the bill for these counties. In 1997 AEF provided grants for approximately 220 Sonoma County clients, at a cost of over \$100,000, and residents in the county donated less than \$9,000.

According to some in the Sonoma County AIDS community, the sudden announcement by AEF that it was cutting off grant money came as a shock, and left people angry and confused about what to do.

Further complicating the problem was the fact that the Sonoma County AIDS Commission had been unaware that the AEF grants were coming to an end when it established its budget for 1998, and did not make any allocations to AEF to keep the grant program operating in Sonoma County.

"Why didn't you let us know sooner, before we had allocated funds?" questioned Michael Onstott, a Guerneville resident and founder of the National AIDS Nutrient Bank.

Several speakers said Sonoma County especially feels the pinch of losing the AEF grants because local AIDS funding is suffering its own cutbacks this year, and the general economy has been effected by several years of devastating winter floods.

"When you're talking about people with very low incomes, it's a major hit," said Van Dyke.

County funds

The county has two emergency funds of its own, the Bush Fund that offers money for rent and utilities in specified increments, and a small fund administered by Face to Face which provides limited money for necessities such as food and gasoline. The AEF was the only agency that offered money for a wide variety of needs at any time during the year.

Despite, the fear and anger over the loss of the grants, however, meeting participants generally praised the AEF for providing ex-

cellent service to PWAs with very little overhead costs.

"I want to put in a plug for AEF," said Guerneville Face to Face office manager Dee McGuffey. "These people have done it a long time. They know how to do it."

Meeting attendees also came up with a variety of ways that

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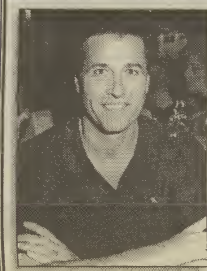
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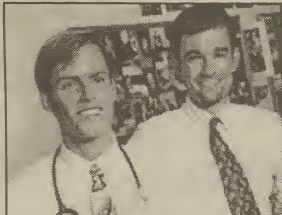
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Matthew 7:27

Reverend Sharna Sutherin, pastor of Golden Gate Metropolitan Community Church, surveys part of the nearly \$10,000 in damage to the church's social hall caused by El Niño storms. Rains collapsed the social hall's roof and flooded the building. In the spirit of community, Reverend Jim Mitulski of MCC-SF announced that special offerings at his three Sunday, March 8, services will benefit the Noe Valley congregation. For more information about MCC-Golden Gate, call (415) 642-0294.

Different Light ladles out the meals at MCC

by Helen Vozenilek

For a lot of people, Friday night is a time to kick back and welcome in the weekend. For the hungry and homeless in the Castro, it can be a time for a warm meal and a kind word.

Beginning this Friday, March 6, volunteers from A Different Light Bookstore will serve a Friday night supper at the Metropolitan Community Church on Eureka. Nine workers from the bookstore will share in the preparation and cleanup of a meal for 60. Tommi Avicoli Mecca, events coordinator at the bookstore and chief architect of the meal plan, explained that most of the food will be donated by individuals and one local merchant. The first simple offering of spaghetti, salad, and bread will eventually evolve into something more elegant, said Mecca.

The bookstore's Friday meal will take place alongside MCC's already existing Wednesday night

supper, called Simply Supper. Started four months ago, Wednesday's meal serves an ethnically diverse, primarily male, population ranging in ages from 18-50. In the words of Simply Supper's director David Gant, "It is one of the more real actions we can take to help the homeless. We are a church and in a very basic way our responsibility is to feed the hungry."

"A true measure of the worth of a society," added Mecca, "is how it cares for its least fortunate members. In this program we are showing that the Castro is really a community that cares. And it's a way for the bookstore to give something back to the community."

While Gant hopes that other merchants in the area will be persuaded to cover a meal of their own, none besides A Different Light have stepped up to claim a day. When MCC began the Simply Supper program last November there were, according to Gant, initially some fears that the suppers would attract more homeless

to the area. "But none of these problems panned out," he said.

Mecca meets potential criticism of the free suppers a little more headlong, saying: "I would think that people would see that we aren't the ones causing the problem. We are just trying to help out with some solutions. The problem is with the good-for-nothing politicians, starting with Willie Brown and going down the line, who have dropped the ball."

Castro merchants, homeless activists, and members of Tom Ammann's office have been meeting for some time to help fashion long-term solutions to the problems of the area's homeless. And while none see the meal serving as a long-term answer, the short term benefits of a warm meal are undeniable. ▼

If you want to donate time, food or money to the Simply Supper program, please contact David Gant at MCC, (415) 865-2748.

Study seeks women who have had sex with female therapists

by Cynthia Laird

Many lesbians and bisexual women know a woman who has had a sexual relationship with a female psychotherapist, or have had the experience themselves. Even though it's something a lot of women have been through, it tends to get swept under the rug for a variety of reasons. For women who have had this experience, Lee Baker, a graduate student at the Smith College School of Social Work, has decided to explore the issue for her master's thesis and is seeking women who have had this experience.

Baker, who's a licensed social

worker with the state of Ohio and has a bachelor's degree in psychology from Oberlin College, believes there are a variety of reasons for the lack of discussion around this issue; sometimes the therapist may be prominent in the community and her client is either afraid to talk about what has happened, or she does tell others but they don't believe her story. Others may hesitate to speak because of the harm that could come to either the client or the therapist as a result of homophobic responses. Still others have sought out a woman therapist because they expect more safety with a woman than with a man, and are surprised to find that they feel violated by a

woman they trusted.

There has been a lot of publicity in recent years about male therapists who have had sex with their clients, but not enough has been said about what happens when a female therapist does the same, according to Baker. She is interested in talking with women who have had sexual experiences with their female therapists and hopes to address the lack of information available about this subject, both in the lesbian and bisexual women's communities and among therapists. ▼

Women can leave a confidential message for Baker at (415) 476-7365, ext. 1.

EVPA president aims for neighborhood preservation

by Shan Schwartz

Eureka Valley isn't the same as other neighborhoods around, and Lion Barnett wants to keep it that way.

As the new president of the Eureka Valley Promotion Association, Barnett hopes he can help in tackling some of Eureka Valley's big problems, but he also hopes for some nice little changes as well.

Although it's more commonly known as "The Castro," Eureka Valley is the more established name for the area bounded roughly by Market Street on the north and west, Church Street on the east, and 21st Street on the south. The EVPA is an organization long ago created by and for the residents of Eureka Valley.

Barnett told the B.A.R. that the organization's primary concern is the people who live there.

"Recognizing that we do have a world-famous gay mecca, it's also a place where people live," Barnett said. "And those people are gay and straight, younger and older, families and single people. So our main focus is making sure that it's a habitable, safe, enjoyable, convenient, and efficient neighborhood for people to live in."

EVPA is one of four community organizations that try to preserve and plan the neighborhoods around the Castro. The other three are the Duboce Triangle Neighborhood Association (for residents north of Market Street), the Merchants of Upper Market and Castro, and Castro Area Planning + Action.

What differentiates EVPA and DTNA, Barnett said, is that these two organizations represent the residents of the area and are interested in keeping the area "resident-friendly."

Barnett was elected as EVPA's president this January, and he says one of his biggest goals for the year is to strengthen the relationship between EVPA and the other three Castro-area organizations. Although each group has slightly different motives or areas they cover, Barnett said they all deal with some of the same problems, such as parking and traffic, the "chain store takeover," increased crime, and increased homeless people and panhandlers in the area.

Because Eureka Valley encompasses much of the main part of the Castro Street, a lot of what takes place on "the strip" concerns EVPA, Barnett said. For years EVPA has paid very close atten-



EVPA's Lion Barnett, Gerald Abbott, Rachel Heyman and Roger Yates.

tion to beer and wine permits granted in the neighborhood, conversions of residential units to businesses, and frequent changes in conditional use permits for commercial properties in the area.

"In a way we've become known as the Eureka Valley Protest Association, because of the amount of permit opposition our organization has done," Barnett said. "But a lot of that comes from the stance of wanting to protect the area as a residential neighborhood, and wanting it to be a place where people who live here can shop within a few blocks from home, as opposed to going downtown, or to CostCo, or to Target, or wherever."

The issue of homelessness and panhandlers is one in particular that Barnett hopes to help address in the coming months. He said there are many people who are very disturbed by the great number of homeless and panhandlers that have appeared in the Castro area in the last few years.

"People are not coming to the area, or they are afraid to come at night, and elderly people can be intimidated just walking down the street," he said.

Ideas for solving the problems are thrown around all the time, Barnett said, and neighborhood activists are trying to find a variety of ways to deal with the problem. Some of the ways to deal with it are to increase services and to improve referrals to shelters and assistance agencies.

"The homeless people are, after all, people," he said. "They're unhappy, they're unfortunate, and they've come to be in that condition for a variety of reasons. But whatever brought them there, they are not a help to themselves or a help to the neighborhood."

While neighborhood residents and businesses are interested in

improving services to the homeless, Barnett said, some people are also losing patience.

"When push comes to shove, people are saying these people just have to get off the street," Barnett said. "It's inappropriate, it's detrimental to the neighborhood, and it represents a deterioration of the neighborhood as well. People are afraid it's going to turn into Polk Street or the Tenderloin."

In addition to solving big problems like homelessness, Barnett says he wants EVPA to re-focus on small neighborhood improvement projects it can easily handle by itself, such as turning a small vacant lot into a garden.

"The people who work with EVPA and other neighborhood residents can jump in as they wish to help out and do something like that," Barnett said.

Barnett hopes neighborhood residents will contact EVPA with ideas for such small projects to make small improvements and show residents how EVPA can help maintain the neighborhood.

He also hopes more residents might become active with EVPA. An \$8 yearly membership (or \$12 for a couple) entitles members to a monthly newsletter which includes announcements of meetings and the group's upcoming projects.

EVPA meets the third Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. at the Eureka Valley Recreation Center, located at 100 Collingwood St.

EVPA's other officers this year are Vice President Rachel Heyman, Treasurer Heide Chipp, Corresponding Secretary Gerald Abbott, and Recording Secretary Roger Yates. ▼

To join EVPA, send a check to P.O. Box 14137, San Francisco, 94114. For more information, call Barnett at 255-3624.

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Changes in HIV in Prison Project

by Liz Highleyman

Due to the loss of foundation funding, the HIV/AIDS in Prison Project, formerly under the auspices of Catholic Charities of the East Bay, was forced to close as of February 13.

However, much of the work of the project will continue as part of California Prison Focus, according to project coordinator Judy

Greenspan. California Prison Focus is an organization dedicated to fighting repressive conditions faced by maximum security, or "lockdown," prisoners.

Financial support remains extremely limited, and the work of the new HIV in Prison Committee (HIP) will be carried out on a volunteer, part-time basis.

HIP hopes to continue its advocacy work on behalf of prisoners with HIV/AIDS and women prisoners with various serious

medical conditions. In order to do so, the committee is requesting assistance from volunteers, financial contributions to cover phone and mailing costs, and donations of office supplies and equipment and HIV educational materials. ▼

The HIV in Prison Committee can be reached at 2489 Mission Street #28, San Francisco 94110; phone (510) 655-2931; e-mail judyg@igc.org

BAY AREA REPORTER

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OPEN FORUM

March ... forward

The repeal of Maine's gay rights law in February was certainly shocking and depressing, and got us wondering if the whole world was planning to goose-step in lockstep to the right forever. Fortunately, the first week of March has cheered us up a lot.

First, a ruling came down that the state of Alaska has no obvious compelling reason to regulate marriage partners' genders, so the state now must meet a very tough legal standard to justify restricting marriage to opposite-sex couples. It is a promising step, and a boost to everyone hoping for a fair ruling on same-sex marriage in Hawaii. Not that we think marriage is the best option for all gay couples—which is reflective of our feelings about heterosexual couples, too, by the way—but we do look forward to laws that provide some protection to long-term partners.

Domestic partner laws, while better than nothing, are not as good as marriage laws in matters like ensuring succession of property, visitation rights, and tax benefits. There is no reason we gay and lesbian Americans should have to permanently resign ourselves to the second-class status of domestic partnerships—even as we are aware it's preferable to the third-class status we had before those laws went into effect.

The next great court ruling came from New Jersey, where the Boy Scouts lost a round in their attempts to discriminate. Since the ruling was handed down, scout officials there and in some other states have vowed to continue their anti-gay bigotry. They seem utterly unaware of the ironies involved: that they profess to build character when what they really do is foment discord; that they consider themselves "role models," when all they are really modeling is the

anachronistic fashions of centuries-old hatreds and misunderstandings; and that it is patently un-Christian to pick and choose between children—selecting those who will be eligible for the benefits of companionship, camaraderie, and survival/sufficiency skills—based on something as ridiculous as sexual orientation. It is particularly heinous when the most recent study shows violence is a worse problem for gay kids than ever.

Speaking of sexual orientation (aren't we always?), that came a step closer to being conclusively pegged as a completely natural prenatal phenomenon, in yet another interesting and somewhat surprising turn of events this week.

The Texas study revealing that lesbians have different ears than heterosexual women is stimulating, and not only for people who are excited by ears more than the rest of us. The news might, ultimately, force some heterosexuals to use their (ordinary) ears to hear this: homosexuality is not a "choice" or "lifestyle," but simply a reflection that life on this planet was created with more diversity than previously accepted.

One person who would do well to remember that is Attorney General Dan Lungren, the Republican party candidate for governor.

Lungren is dividing his time these days between delivering messianic speeches to his choir of right-wing control freaks and trying to shut down the cannabis clubs providing medicine to sick people throughout the state. He has already proven himself a dedicated foe of queer equality, having filed

"friend of the court" briefs against same-sex marriage and in favor of Coloradans' prerogative to treat gays and lesbians like shit: to fire them, evict them, and prevent them from seeking redress from their elected representatives.

Last week the Federal Bureau of Investigation concluded an investigation into events at California's Corcoran Prison, culminating with charges that guards viciously set up adversarial prisoners in human blood sport matches. The FBI concluded that guards, when bored, instigated and bet on fights between the inmates—and when one match got too serious for them to easily regain control, shot a

prisoner. Dead. Right through the head. What does this have to do with Dan Lungren? Only that Lungren's office had previously investigated the allegations but didn't come up with the determination that the guards had acted improperly. It remains to be seen whether the attorney general's office was simply sloppy or engaged in a cover-up, but it's cause for concern either way.

If Lungren is incompetent, the state does not need him as governor; if he is dishonest, we don't want him. In any case, he seems to be incapable of allocating his time and resources wisely: it is abominable that pot dealing gets his highest priority when cold-blooded murder goes unpunished.

Before he launches into his next family values sermon—uh, campaign speech—it might behoove him to study the Bible he pretends to follow, and brush up on that part where the Ten Commandments strictly prohibit killing people. ▼



Editorial

The 123s of ABC

by Paul Causey,
Executive director,
AIDS Benefits Counselors

In 1996, AIDS Benefits Counselors merged its 11 years of experience in benefits counseling and advocacy with Positive Resource's six years of experience in employment services for people with AIDS/HIV. The ABC Positive Resource Center, as the integrated program is now known, serves over 2,500 people a year. It is from this vantage point that we call to your attention items that were overlooked in the Preliminary Report and in the oral presentations from the Workplace Entry and Re-Entry Subcommittee at the AIDS Summit.

1. Many barriers exist that keep people with AIDS/HIV from returning to the workplace in large numbers, such as:

- The risk of losing eligibility for income benefits and access to healthcare should an attempt to sustain employment fail (see also Summit Report, pp. 79-81);

- Physical limitations such as fatigue, pain in extremities, and eating patterns necessitated by complicated drug therapy regimens;

- Emotional and psychological stress and depression that many disabled people experience at every stage of the "return to work" process;

- The length of time needed to properly address the issues of returning to work (many now need one year to successfully proceed from disability to permanent employment);

- Need for job skills development for people out of the workforce for extended periods of time—especially for those who choose not to return to their previous line of work (and only 15% now choose to return to their previous position);

- Insufficient resources for career counseling to help expand personal options and develop new work goals;

- Inadequate access to computer training provided by and for people with HIV (ABC-PR Center currently has 200 clients waiting to enter our computer training program).

2. San Francisco's people living with

AIDS/HIV have the right to determine what employment services they most need and want.

At the Public Forum held by the Workplace Entry and Re-Entry Subcommittee, the Committee Co-Chair stated that no survey of people with AIDS/HIV in San Francisco was conducted prior to the development of the recommendations. Apparently, no survey of prospective employers was performed, either. Key points to consider are:

- Based on our experience, individuals who desire to re-enter the workplace require a wide range of support and services tailored to their individual needs. The re-entry process is gradual and requires flexibility at every step.

- People with AIDS/HIV are reluctant to seek employment services through city agencies when they fear loss of financial benefits from other government departments.

- Employment services from a city agency must be culturally appropriate and sensitive to the unique needs of people living with HIV/AIDS.

- Clients will not seek employment without better guarantees to protect their financial well-being and access to healthcare.

- Employers will be reluctant to offer through a city agency a wide range of jobs (especially those requiring mid to high-skill levels) and which are suitable to the specific needs of individuals returning to the workforce.

3. San Francisco's people living with AIDS/HIV have the right to choose where they will access employment services.

We welcome City involvement through the new Employment Development Unit in the areas of coordination, planning, funding, and evaluation. However, we are cautious in endorsing the delivery of employment services through a new unit yet to be designed or created if it replaces proven and successful services now in place which are community based and community supported. We hope the Mayor will renew his commitment to the continuation of the services provided by the ABC Positive Resource Center which have been funded by

the Mayor's Office of Community Development for the past four years.

Twice in the past nine months, Mayor Brown has generously written in support of a grant proposal submitted by ABC to the Department of Education Rehabilitation Services Administration. The direct services program of the new Employment Development Unit that is suggested in the Summit Report is identical to the program that this \$245,000 annual grant will fund. Therefore, community effort underway and already supported by Mayor Brown will be duplicated. In the Mayor's own words from his letter of December 15, 1997:

"I encourage your consideration of the grant proposal recently submitted by AIDS Benefits Counselors for expansion of its Positive Resource program—the Bay Area's principal resource for job counseling, training and placement services for people with HIV/AIDS since 1992—in collaboration with the State of California Department of Rehabilitation and Jewish Vocational Services. This innovative partnership, which has the support of San Francisco's AIDS Office and the Mayor's Office of Community Development, needs Federal financial support to meet a critical emerging need and great opportunity for people with HIV/AIDS."

Positive Resource is becoming a critical link in the network of public and private sector services for San Franciscans in this epidemic. I encourage your support of this grant proposal so that people with HIV/AIDS have access to the services they need to return to productive employment."

This proposal was also supported by Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi, CA Department of Rehabilitation District Administrator Luciana Profaca, Department of Public Health's Assistant Director Norm Nickens and then-Director of the Mayor's Office of Community Development Priscilla Watts. We encourage the Mayor to follow his previous recommendations and immediately direct funding to the community based employment services which are currently serving the needs of people living with HIV/AIDS in the City of San Francisco. ▼



Guest Opinion

LETTERS

Pat Christen in 'Sweet Charity'?

I was pleased to read ["SFAF takes note of executive salary," February 19, and "Figure skating at SFAF," February 26] that San Francisco's own Queen Of Mean, Pat Christen, with the full backing of a prominent headhunter, has decided to run her San Francisco AIDS Foundation as a business!

What do her detractors, who are everywhere, think she has going on there, anyway? Some kind of charity?

Robert Dow
San Francisco

... in 'How to Succeed in Business'?

Those who defend high salaries to nonprofit executives argue the salaries are necessary to prevent these people from shifting to the private sector, where they could earn more. What they fail to note is that clerks, administrative assistants, case counselors, and other non-executive employees of nonprofits could also earn more in the private sector. Nonetheless, we're supposed to believe it's a sacrifice for the former group to continue in nonprofit work but not for the latter.

Yet it seems fairly obvious that a person who chooses to do nonprofit work for \$25,000 a year rather than for-profit work at \$40,000 is making a far greater sacrifice than someone earning \$150,000 a year rather than \$250,000. A \$25,000 salary in the Bay Area means someone is just scraping by. A \$150,000 salary makes it possible to live extremely well — better than 99 percent of the people in the world.

I don't care how much top executives could make elsewhere. The fact that corporate executives are obscenely overpaid is no justification for overpaying non-corporate executives. Anyone who can't be satisfied with \$150,000 a year has a real problem. It's not more money these people need, it's a few lessons in gratitude and humility.

John McCloud
San Francisco

... or in 'Les Miserables'?

True to her interests, Ms. Eunice Azzani sees nothing wrong with top-heavy executive salaries for SFAF, which is supposed to be committed to servicing HIV-positive people with AIDS. While Azzani defends such corporate excess, it escapes her that Thanksgiving turkey loaf dinners and ten-day vouchers to rat hole hotels just doesn't cut it. Applauding Pat Christen's performance, one wonders just what it is Azzani alluding to — Pat's ability to fill her bank account?

Let's be honest here! When Azzani invokes the misogynist bogey man, she's really saying she wants the same rights her male counterparts have to exploit and profit off the indigent, infirm, and workers of such agencies as SFAF. When she says "let's go after the virus," what she means is "let's go after the bucks."

She does not address the fact that there are over 3,000 homeless HIV-positives, the vast majority of whom are black and Latino, sleeping on the cold wet streets of SF. She does not speak of any decent housing policy coming out of all these enormous sums; just continued profit mongering. But why should she? When Azzani comments "it's a sad sad day," she's sad that anyone dare challenge Pat's greedy agenda.

It does not surprise this writer that white female HIV-negative corporate bureaucrats are just as capable of being selfish racist pigs as their male counterparts. The question is, who needs them?

Ronnie Burk
San Francisco

Credit where it's due

Re: "Union, anti-sunshine nonprofits agree to negotiate..." [February 26], I would like to clarify the statement "The structure and process ... to work out viable sunshine legislation was set in motion months ago by the Milk Club's HIV caucus. That group formed an accountability project that has focused ... on gaining access to the records and board meetings of nonprofit organizations."

The statement is accurate if one substitutes "ACT UP/Golden Gate" for the "Milk Club's HIV caucus." ACT UP/Golden Gate initiated the accountability project and has been the driving force behind researching and developing sunshine legislation. For many months, the Milk Club has been working with ACT UP/Golden Gate and Supervisor Tom Ammiano on this issue. The Milk Club established an HIV caucus in November to specifically deal with this and other HIV/AIDS issues.

We continue to work together as members of the nonprofit accountability task force led by Supervisor Ammiano that also includes interested nonprofit leaders and members of the City's Sunshine Task Force. Areas of consensus have emerged and hopefully we can develop legislation everyone can support.

Thank you for an otherwise excellent article.

Jeff Sheehy
Co-Chair, HIV Caucus,
Harvey Milk Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Democratic Club

One thing they don't follow SF on ...

I recently spent a three-day weekend in Palm Springs to get away from the rain, and was surprised to see that smoking is still allowed in the gay bars there (probably all bars, for that matter). When I asked one employee about it, he seemed proud when he said that "Palm Springs is still an old west town where they make up our own rules." I told someone else at another bar that the smoking had stopped in San Francisco and he replied, "At least that's one thing we don't try and follow San Francisco on."

I am a non-smoker, and can finally enjoy going out because of the new smoking ban. Most people I've talked to think the new law is wonderful. We certainly don't need yet another boycott of something, but I know I won't be patronizing the bars in Palm Springs until things change.

David Davis
San Francisco

Let them wear masks!

Have the health advocates prohibited the operations of automotive repair shops where employees inhale rampant toxic fumes. No! Have they prohibited the operations of coal mines where employees are almost sure to risk black lung disease? No! Have the health advocates prohibited the sale of "dry clean only" clothing because the business of dry cleaning requires employees to be exposed to and inhale dangerous chemicals? No! In these cases and much more, employees are permitted to assume the risks of their work environments. Have the health advocates fought for emission control devices on government and commercial vehicles such as the bus, train, plane, jet, boat, ship, truck, etc. as they have on privately owned vehicles, because although they comprise only 11 percent of the vehicles within the San Francisco Bay Area and they cause over 70 percent of the air pollution here for all of us to inhale? No!

The premise behind California's new statewide law, effective January 1, 1998, is to provide a healthy work environment for those who are employed in nightclubs and bars — two environments historically known as "smoke-filled" and clearly appreciated by countless poems, movies, love stories, paintings, photographs, and songs.

When considering the numerous choices of smoke-free work environments available to employees and smoke-free establishments for patrons, everywhere but nightclubs and bars prior to the passage of this new law (such as restaurants, concert halls, and theaters), and weighing that against requiring alcohol drinkers to leave their cocktails indoors and stand outside of bars and nightclubs during evening hours exposed to various elements such as wind, cold, rain, snow, street crime, beggars, etc., to smoke tobacco, is more than an inconvenience, it is a direct imposition on the smokers' freedom, safety, and civil rights.

As a smoker who enjoys having cocktails while socially interacting with others, I resent this imposition. And I resent being restricted to only being able to drink alcohol while smoking tobacco at home for lack of any indoor public place where smoking is permitted because I do not drink alcohol alone, should not be forced or expected to do so, and with the cost of housing in San Francisco, live in an apartment too small for entertaining. Perhaps tobacco smokers are a minority, but does that give the majority the right to bully and push us around — as so many of us feel?

After all, I choose not to visit friends in their homes who will not permit me to smoke in their homes, as many choose not to invite me to their homes because I do smoke, and I think we should all exercise our freedom of choices without denying freedoms to others!

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After all, I choose not to visit friends in their homes who will not permit me to smoke in their homes, as many choose not to invite me to their homes because I do smoke, and I think we should all exercise our freedom of choices without denying freedoms to others!

Alie E. Slater
San Francisco

Rod, we hardly knew ye...

Those guys that acted upon the Nob Hill Theater ad in the February 19 B.A.R. entertainment were very lucky indeed. Many many Rod Garetto fans will envy you for being at the farewell-to-porn performance of male porn's durable headliner of 11 years.

A family man, with a wife and two children, Rod Garetto, (not his real last name) is moving to upstate New York to be closer to his wife's family. He also feels he's responsible for looking ahead for his family's long-term financial security.

Over drinks after one of his shows he said he may occasionally perform, but I didn't hear much conviction in his tone of voice. In his own way, I felt Rod was a good friend of the gay community and helped add a little sanity to a tough industry.

So save those tapes guys; 'cause it looks like you've now got collector's shots of one of the very best pieces of meat in porn in the last 11 years.

So long Rod, and good luck.

Dick Roberts
San Francisco

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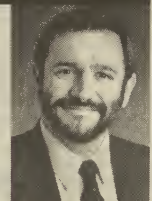
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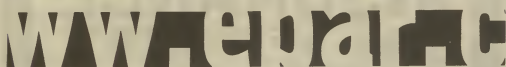
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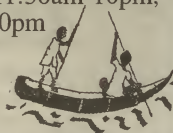


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Contra Vander Waerdt

Hats off to Gary Virginia for letting some hot air out of Paul Vander Waerdt's megalomaniacal balloon ["Robbing PR to pay Paul?," *Mailstrom*, February 19]. Mr. Virginia showed remarkable acuity in stating that Vander Waerdt is out of touch with the realities and intricacies of delivering services to people with HIV who hope to return to the workplace. In my brief stint on the Mayor's subcommittee for the AIDS summit, I was appalled by Vander Waerdt's professional myopia, his refusal to understand the need to include the business community (where the jobs are) in any plans for delivering rehabilitation and employment services, and his exquisite talent for antagonizing and alienating the forces that could help him to achieve such goals. Not only did I find his behavior to be extremely manipulative and deceitful, I was shocked by the number of key people who were intimidated by his bullying and afraid to speak out against him for fear that doing so would cost their agencies valuable funding.

While Mr. Vander Waerdt has helped raise a great deal of money for local organizations (and pocketed substantial fees for his services), he has proven to be an extremely counterproductive force who creates a tremendous amount of divisiveness and ill will. It would be a tragedy in community relations for Mayor Brown to even consider appointing this man to any position involving a work re-entry program.

George Heymont
San Francisco

A bad note on Muni

On February 12, I took the F-line to go to Macy's, on car number 1062. Muni has refused to give me the operator's name, but his badge number is 1357. What a day it was...

I wore headphones, listening to a dance mix. After five minutes on the bus, the driver stopped and approached me, telling me to turn it off. I refused and told him that not once in my life have I seen a Muni operator tell a person on any other line playing a boom-box to turn it off. He went to get a policeman!

I was kicked off, and I then rode two different lines, sitting right next to the operator in one case. Nothing was said or done. I ride the Fillmore line every month, doing the same thing, even with a cop on the 22 line (not saying anything to the people in the back with a radio on full blast). I am filing a complaint for racial discrimination and harassment because the driver thinks he can enforce Muni's rules on certain people but not on others. Muni is a complete disgrace.

Any witnesses please write to: R. Wescott, 2215-R Market St. #568, SE, CA 94114.

I would like to thank Carl Glover of Citizens United for Muni Action for his help. Mayor Brown still hasn't fixed Muni (or anything for that matter), and should be held responsible. Please ride a bike and boycott Muni — I am.

R. Wescott
San Francisco

An open letter to Maine

I'm a heterosexual physician in San Francisco caring for homosexual men with AIDS.

My patients have as much choice about their sexuality as African-Americans have about their skin color or Asians have about their eyelid creases.

Don't you realize when you rejected equal rights for all your citizens, you denigrated yourselves? The fabric of this nation is based on the concept of equality for all. It is the foundation on which my grandparents sought a new life away from persecution in Europe. It is why we are Americans.

The greatest tragedy is that the people who promulgated this miscarriage of justice use God and religion as their foil. Isn't it ironic that religion can be used in such a distorted and vile manner?

Although I live in the West, I have strong emotional ties with the East. For me, Maine has always been a refuge. How can I return to a state that fomented prejudice and hatred by denying its own people equal treatment before the law?

What can I expect next?

What will you do with your atheists and agnostics? Your immigrants? Your disabled? Where does it end? Who are the next targets? Where do you draw the line?

People of conscience must realize that when you embrace a philosophy of exclusion that results in injustice, you deny your own freedom.

It is fundamentally wrong to deny the rights of anyone, even if you do not understand or accept them. Epictetus, a Greek philosopher, wrote in the first century A.D., "You must know that it is no easy thing for a principle to become a man's own, unless each day he maintain it and hear it maintained, as well as work it out in life." Why do ancient Greeks have to teach us the obvious?

How do you think Abe Lincoln would have voted?

Robert E. Neger, M.D.
San Francisco

SF Media Hogs

Besides being known as a place of beauty and romance, San Francisco is seen by many as the center of gay sexual prowess. In our play-space this is true, but in public, the city's figurative penis is only half erect.

Nowhere is this more evident than in your recent article, "Pride '98: music to whose ears?" (Feb. 19th). Teddy Witherington and Ken Bunch? This is San Francisco Pride, send those two back to London. *Bananarama*? No, don't send them back to London, have them shot.

Here in San Fran, our hearts are genuine and fruitful, but our heads are on the shoulders of men like Willie Brown. Our city is victim to deficient leadership in some key places. Until that changes, we can expect events that should be fabulously meaningful, like Pride '98, to be part of the personal agenda of media hogs and suck asses like Witherington and Bunch.

Swanson
San Francisco

Cutting edge?

About Pride '98: cutting edge, shmuttin' fedge! I'd like to hear some plain ol' good music, or honor some people queers have deservedly mounted on pedestals. My musical wish list includes Barbra Streisand, Elton John, David Bowie, Boy George (hello, this is Oz, why wouldn't he come?), k.d. lang, Melissa Etheredge. Erring on the side of pure silliness and fun, you can't go wrong with The Rock-Bottom Reminders, a group of writers, including Dave Barry, Amy Tan, and Stephen King. Membership in the Reminders is fluid, if Pride '98 wanted more queer authors in it, why not? A willingness to be a deer in the headlights of a car (aka going on with the show, stage fright or not ...), a willingness to be a fool for the cause, etc., is as good as a great voice in the Reminders. Cutting edge? What's that?

Thornton Kimes
San Francisco

Frat buoys

Nowhere in the gay community are gay men more united to one another than in the Brotherhood of Delta Lambda Phi National Social Fraternity. Mark Mardon's February 12 article "Gay frat flap over charges of public sex at pledge party" presented a titillating but inaccurate story of scandal, intrigue, and back-stabbing "engulfing" our organization. Fortunately, this public misrepresentation of our Brotherhood is easily corrected by facts.

It is true that the board of directors of Delta Lambda Phi is currently investigating an incident affecting the brothers of our Zeta Chapter in San Francisco. On the specific question of the "sex scandal," we the board are not even sure that such a scandal exists. When the matter was brought to our attention, we reacted with concern. However, our National Trustee, "The Big Kahuna," felt no need to restrain board members from acting "precipitously," as the article suggests. In fact, the opposite is true. Every board member called for caution, respect, and deference to the Zeta Chapter. Currently, the brothers investigating this matter have made no report to the board and we have taken no action. The article's suggestion that the board is considering the chapter's suspension is completely untrue.

While we find this misinformation about the "sex scandal" disturbing, we are most troubled by the article's general characterization of our Brotherhood as racked with in-fighting and division. It is completely nonsense to suggest that any leader of a nationwide gay organization would willfully seek to damage its presence in San Francisco. We cannot account for our Brother Jerry Velasquez's mischaracterization of this situation. We can only presume that personal conflicts, to which no organization is immune, has clouded his judgment.

Our organization is dedicated to building bonds of friendship among gay, bisexual, and progressive men in an environment that is both sex-positive and free of sexual pressure. And we succeed at this goal. The remarkable idea that gay men can develop profound, non-superficial friendships with one another brings hundreds of men to our organization each year. We hope that future B.A.R. articles will raise awareness of Delta Lambda Phi as a powerful and positive force in the lives of gay men in the Bay Area and around the country.

Peter E. Colohan
Spokesman for the board of directors,
Delta Lambda Phi National Social Fraternity

[Editor's note: Brother Jerry Velasquez's statements comprise only a fraction of the evidence that the Zeta Chapter is at least partially racked by in-fighting, division, scandal, intrigue, and back-stabbing. Which isn't denying its charms when it isn't — and maybe even when it is.]

Send signed, original, legible letters to B.A.R.,
395 Ninth Street, San Francisco CA 94103.

POLITICS

Heat wave

by Wayne Friday

Last week's column, "The Devil and Daniel Lungren," generated a lot of heat, most of which was blasted in my direction. One reader, who wrote a long, none-too-nice letter, followed up by a blistering phone call, believes that I am "all wet" and that Mr. Lungren "most certainly has no intention of injecting religion into the running of the state government were he to be elected in November."

Hey, I have no quarrel with Dan Lungren's strongly held religious beliefs. Indeed, it is my feeling that more government leaders might do well to take an occasional glance at the Good Book and learn a lesson or two from it. Certainly, the names of several politicians come to mind.

As for Dan Lungren, however, it was the Republican gubernatorial wannabe himself who opened the evangelical/political dialogue during his campaign kickoff a couple of weeks ago. He told reporters that separation of church and state need not mean "separation of public debate and religious values." He further commented that "if we are to be a successful people, we have to be a religious people as well."

A practicing Roman Catholic, Mr. Lungren's opposition to abortion and gay rights and support for school prayer are his own business, but when he tries to shove his personal beliefs down the throat of the California electorate, then he's crossed the "separation" line. The attorney general claims that he would like to return to the days when life was safe and simple. One assumes that he, as governor, would want every child in the state to feel the sense of security and community that he felt as a child.

Nothing wrong, I guess, with that. However, when Lungren talks of yearning for the California of his youth, I agree with **Al Checchi**, another candidate for governor, who stated that "he [Lungren] is harkening back to a mode of society that worked for him — and maybe it worked for a lot of us — but it's not the reality that we're currently facing. We don't live in the '50s anymore."

No kidding. I also feel compelled to point out that the AG's "Happy Days" weren't so great for a lot of people in this country — like blacks, women, gays, Asians, Latinos, etc.

When Dan Lungren says that his campaign for governor would be an effort to "revive religious values," voters have the right to ask, "Whose religious values? Which ones?" Lungren's notion of making religious values a part of public policy is something that should make all of us, regardless of our own individual beliefs, highly uncomfortable and suspicious.

Certainly, I would agree with Dan Lungren that there should be more morality in government (if that, indeed, is what he truly meant). However, as Mr. Checchi also pointed out this week: "We have a tradition of separating church and state in this country that has served us well, particularly as we are such a diverse society." More morality doesn't translate — in my book, anyway — to a



Fong finished? The treasurer's senate campaign is sinking fast.

fresh infusion of fire and brimstone.

For the record, Checchi, also a Catholic, says that his own sense of public morality leads him to support *Roe vs. Wade*, although he also supports requiring parental consent before a minor can obtain an abortion. Gubernatorial hopefuls **Jane Harman** and **Gray Davis** are both pro-choice and oppose requiring parental consent.

Finally, despite the various scribes who felt compelled to put poison pen to paper last week, I have to believe that when California voters — Republicans and Democrats alike — become more acquainted with Lungren's approach of solving all problems with large doses of religion and morality (the castor oil method!), they'll back away from him. In the process, the Republican Party could very well lose the gubernatorial election to any of the Democrats now in the race.

D.C. Dan?

While on the subject of the GOP gubernatorial hopeful ... Lungren has refused to promise that he would serve the full four years and not run for president in 2000 if he is elected governor of the Golden State in November. When asked at a news conference Saturday if he would rule out running for president or veep in 2000, Lungren instantly replied, "Nope."

My choice for the next president of the Board of Supes? That one's a no-brainer. **Tom Ammi** is the most independent member of that august group — perhaps the only one who doesn't jump every time the Mayor's Office calls.

Beltway pundits claim that it is a foregone conclusion that House Speaker **Newt Gingrich** will resign his House leadership post next January to seek the GOP presidential nomination. A certain longtime lesbian activist tells me that Newt's friend, **Candace Gingrich**, is privately telling friends that "Newt's going to run."

Senator **Dianne Feinstein** and husband **Richard Blum** will host a cocktail reception at their home to help re-elect Municipal Court Judge **Dorothy von Beroldingen** on Friday, March 13, 5-7 p.m., \$250, 356-9651 for information.

Friends of Superior Court candidate **Ron Albers** will hold a fundraiser for the popular public defender on Thursday, March 12,

5:30-7:30 p.m., Yank Sing Restaurant (427 Battery Street), \$100, 285-0261 for information.

Assemblyperson **Carole Migden** will kick off her re-election campaign with a fundraising party on Thursday, March 26, 5-6:30 p.m., Tin Pan Restaurant (2251 Market), \$100 and up, 252-9998 for information. Migden is recognized by politicians in both parties as one of the most effective legislators in Sacramento.

Bill Clinton's appearance at a Los Angeles fundraiser for Senator Barbara Boxer's reelection campaign — with celebs like **Ellen DeGeneres**, **Whoopi Goldberg**, **Rod McKuen**, and **Robin Williams** in attendance — raised a nifty half million bucks Saturday. Incidentally, the Boxer campaign has very attractive "Boxer Shorts" for sale for \$15 to benefit the cause.

Meanwhile, GOP insiders say that **Matt Fong's** try for Boxer's senate seat is in *real* trouble. Fong's campaign director, **Elaine Franklin**, left the camp last week, and recent polls show San Diego millionaire **Darrell Issa**, who has spent over \$6 million for television ads so far, in a dead heat with Fong for the GOP nomination. Fong is reportedly having grave, perhaps terminal, problems in the fundraising department.

Democratic gubernatorial hopeful **Al Checchi**, who's also spending millions on TV attempting to become governor, was speaking to the San Jose Rotary Club last week when he got a little egg on his face. During a spirited Q&A, one member asked, apparently straight-faced, whether in light of the \$8 million or so Checchi had already spent, state authorities should simply replace the open primary with an auction. Checchi, unsmiling and unamused, asked for the "next question."

In Myrtle Beach, S.C., where **K.C. and the Sunshine Band** and superstar drag queen **RuPaul** will be the featured entertainment at that city's gay fest, Mayor **Mark McBride** was the only member of the city council to vote against allowing streets to be closed for the Gay and Lesbian Pride March on May 2. The mayor said he was worried about setting a precedent for skinheads and "other undesirable groups!"

Finally, *Gayvote*, the "voice" of the Milk Democratic Club, reports that its executive board "encourages" club members to support Cannabis King **Dennis Peron** in his bid for the Republican gubernatorial nomination. Only in San Francisco! ▼

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Political pitch



Mayor Willie Brown threw out the first ball at the San Francisco Gay Softball League's opening game March 1 at Moscone Field at Bay and Laguna sts. He was exhorted in his efforts by the popular Cheer SF squad. Several SFGSL teams still need players. Those interested should call the hotline at (415) 436-0707.

1997 Darwin Awards

by Beth Elliott

Gladly the Cross-Eyed Bear Dept.: Well, it seems the militant Christians are pushing their agenda of special rights again. It's not just Dan Lungen saying we need religious values in government — like more intolerance for non-believers, or believers who believe differently from you? It's senators holding up James Hormel's ambassadorial appointment because he won't denounce the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence.

Basically, the senators are demanding that Mr. Hormel kiss their ass. They're asking him — and us — to acknowledge their religion as having a special, sacred status in a secular republic. After carrying on as though any same-sex attraction or bonding is lewd and obscene, they expect us to show them special reverence? No, senators — you can kissmyass!

Sigh ... at least this is a perfect lead-in to the 1997 Darwin Awards. The Darwin Awards (usually announced over the Internet in lieu of a ceremony) honor those fearless men (they've all been to date) who, while terminally clueless (and I mean that literally), at least have the common decency to take themselves and their predilection for doing stupid things out of the gene pool.

1997 was the year in which Darwin Award competition became a team sport. Just when we think no one could act as brainlessly as past winners, someone comes along to push the envelope. And speaking of which, the envelope, please:

5th runner-up: David Hubal of San Anselmo, 22, who died when he hit a lift tower at the Mammoth Mountain ski area while riding down the slope on a foam pad. According to the Mono County Sheriff's Department, Hubal was pronounced dead at Centinela Mammoth Hospital after he and his friends apparently hiked up a ski run called Stump Alley and undid some yellow foam protectors from lift towers. The group apparently used the pads to slide down the ski slope, and Hubal crashed into a tower ... which investigators determined was the one with its pad removed.

4th Runner-up: Robert Puelo, 32, was apparently being disorderly in a St. Louis market. When the clerk threatened to call the police, Puelo grabbed a hot dog, shoved it into his mouth, and walked out without paying. Police found him unconscious in front of the store. Paramedics removed the six-inch wiener from his throat: it had choked him to death.

3rd Runner-up: Poacher Marino Malerba of Spain, who shot a stag standing above him on an overhanging rock and was killed instantly when it fell on him.

2nd Runner-up: Get Faced, Lose Face Dept.: Jerry Stromyer, 24, of Kincaid, West Virginia popped a blasting cap into his mouth as a prank during a party and bit down, triggering an explosion that blew off his lips, teeth, and tongue. "Another man had it in an aquarium hooked to a battery and was trying to explode it," said Trooper M.D. Payne. "It wouldn't go off and this guy said I'll show you how to set it off. A paramedic spokesperson said, 'I just can't imagine anyone doing something like that.' Ah, but this is the stuff of Darwin Awards!

1st Runner-up: Tony Roberts, 25, lost his right eye during an initiation into a "mountain men's" rafting club in ... Grants Pass, Oregon (that would explain a lot!). An archer friend tried to shoot a beer can off his head, but the arrow entered Roberts' right eye. Doctors said had the arrow gone one millimeter to the left, a major blood vessel would have been cut and Roberts would have died instantly. The arrow went through 8 to 10 inches of brain with the tip protruding at the rear of his skull, yet somehow managed to miss all major blood vessels; had Roberts tried to pull the arrow out on his own he surely would have killed himself. Roberts admitted afterwards he and his friends had been drinking that afternoon, and said, "I feel so dumb about this." (Gee ... no foolin'?)

But wait — two people outdid even these losers. The late John Pernicky and his

friend, the late Sal Hawkins, decided to attend a local Metallica concert at the Gorge Amphitheater. Having no tickets (but having downed 18 beers between the two of them), they thought it would be easy to hop over the nine-foot fence and sneak into the show. They pulled their pick-up truck over to the fence, planning for Pernicky to hop the fence and then assist his friend over. Unfortunately for Pernicky, there was a 30-foot drop on the other side of the fence.

Pernicky found himself crashing through a tree. His fall was broken (along with his arm) by a large branch that snagged him by the shorts. Dangling from the tree with a broken arm, he looked down and saw some bushes below. Possibly figuring the bushes would break his fall, he removed his pocket knife and proceeded to cut away his shorts to free himself from the tree.

Once free, he crashed into the bushes below. Holly bushes. Not only did the sharp leaves scratch his entire body, he landed on them at the precise angle it take for someone without the protection of his shorts have a holly branch go right up his butt. To make matters worse, upon landing, his pocketknife penetrated his thigh 3-inches.

The late Mr. Hawkins, on seeing his friend in considerable agony, decided to throw him a rope, tie the rope to the pick-up truck, and slowly drive away. In his alcoholic stupor, Hawkins put the truck into reverse. He crashed through the fence, landing on his friend and putting him out of his misery.

Police arrived to find the smashed-up pick-up with its driver 100 feet away, dead from massive internal injuries. Upon moving the truck, they found Pernicky under it, half-naked, with scratches on his body, a holly stick in his rectum, a knife in his thigh, and his shorts dangling from a tree branch 25-feet in the air.

Congratulations gentlemen, you win.

Kind of puts dyke drama into perspective, eh? ▼

MEDIA WATCH

Arkansas paper publishes more names

by Don Romesburg,
GLAAD/SF media
resource center manager

In a shocking turn of events, the February 27 edition of the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette's* "Police beat" column has published the names of four more men arrested in relation to police raids of men seeking sex with other men in public parks. This comes only weeks after a man committed suicide because the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette* published his name in a similar arrest (see GLAADAlerts Feb. 6 and Feb. 20).

The newspaper's executive editor, Griffin Smith, Jr., responded to a February 12 letter from local representatives of GLAAD, ACLU of Arkansas, the Women's Project, P-FLAG, and the Metropolitan Community Church by saying, "Publication of such items is governed by our news policy ... We believe our policy is logical, consistent, [and] proper. We do not contemplate any change."

GLAAD Executive Director Joan M. Garry requested a meeting in a February 27 letter to the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, and explained the clear double standard in a policy allowing the printing of the names of these men while not men arrested for solicitation of female prostitutes. She also emphasized the societal force of the closet which leads many men to feel they can only express their sexual orientation through anonymous sexual encounters. Finally, she wrote, "The suicide note left by the man to his male partner of 31 years reads, 'My name and everything is in the paper this morning ... Good-bye. I love you.' Whether or not you believe your newspaper holds any ethical responsibility in the suicide, you cannot ignore the direct connection between his death and the printing of his name in your newspaper. It was not the alleged act nor the arrest which drove him to such extreme measures: It was the very public media exposure of his sexual orientation and arrest."

She added, "GLAAD calls upon you to act responsibly and, in seeking out the most newsworthy and socially valuable story, address the issue in its full context. Full disclosure does not mean printing names and address of those arrested. It means telling the whole story of why the men gather in the first place."

Urge the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette* to immediately change its clearly biased policy surrounding misdemeanor sex crimes, to address its role in the suicide of a man, and to be more socially responsible, ethical and humane in their assessment of "newsworthiness."

Contact: Walter Hussman, Publisher, *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, P.O. Box 2221, Little Rock, AR 72203, phone: (501) 378-3485, fax: (501) 372-3908.

World's Scariest Police chase down transpeople

On February 17, FOX targeted transpeople in *World's Scariest*

Police Chases, another "reality-based" police program.

"They could be high, they could be insane, they could be both," the voice-over says. "These suspects are so dangerous, so reckless, and so weird that they make these chases unforgettable."

During the "so weird" section, the program shows police forcing at gunpoint a transgendered person from a truck. Then two separate clips are shown where either cross-dressing men, drag queens, or transgendered women (the show does not make this distinction) are engaged in high-speed chases.

In the first, the voice-over identifies the suspect as a "local football coach, well-known and well-liked." When the person is caught, the voice-over asks, "But why did he run, and why didn't the officer recognize him?" He snidely states that, "He was wearing a wig and women's clothing."

Between segments, a police officer explains that safety is the number-one concern, and that they want people to be stopped, not humiliated. But the next arrestee tells a different story. While being chased, the driver calls 911 and explains, "Brand-new dress on, that's what I got. Now they'll see me all dressed up, and want to parade me around in front of everybody in jail." The arrestee says he will stop when "I get my make-up off," and then adds, "I hope this won't make the news." When the driver is arrested, the camera fixes on his legs in hose, noting that "an officer can't help but smile."

By prefacing the segment by calling the transpeople "weird," and lumping that in with being "high ... insane ... or both," FOX sets viewers up to consider transpeople "freakish." The voice-over confirms this bias against transgendered people in its attitude toward the wig and dress of the first driver. The second driver has a valid concern of humiliation after arrest by police officers, who unfortunately have a long history of insensitivity and even outright violence towards lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered people. But this is dismissed by the officer stating that police do not want to "humiliate" suspects. Instead of giving any context to the driver's fear, the structure of the show makes the person appear irrational and "weird."

Let FOX know that this kind of side-show treatment of transgender people is unacceptable.

Contact: Peter Roth, President of Fox Entertainment Group, Fox Television Network, 10201 West Pico Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90064-2606, fax: (310) 369-7363, or call the viewer hotline at: (310) 369-3066

GLAAD media round-up: Ellen's gay, gay world

With the groundbreaking ABC show *Ellen's* increasing risk of cancellation, there has been a lot of coverage of the February 25 "It's A Gay, Gay, Gay, Gay World" episode, in which Spence (Jeremy Piven) dreams he is straight in a world where all but a

small minority of people are gay. The media is beginning to speculate on what has gone wrong with a show that attracted 42 million viewers for the history-making coming out episode last April 30, but is struggling to maintain an audience now. With this kind of speculation comes the inevitable attacks based on DeGeneres's sexual orientation. Other articles are more balanced, looking more at the overall content of the program, evaluating gay themes in a larger context. Remember to watch the show and tell ABC to save *Ellen*!

Contact: Jamie Tarses, Entertainment President, ABC, 2040 Avenue of the Stars, Los Angeles, CA 90037, e-mail address: netaudr@abc.com; feedback forms: <http://www.abc.com/vvoice/View-cons1.html>. ▼

GLAAD promotes fair, accurate, and inclusive representation as a means of challenging discrimination based on sexual orientation or identity. Contact GLAAD by e-mail at glaad@glaad.org or by phone at (415) 861-2244. Report defamation in the media by calling GLAAD's Toll-Free AlertLine! 1-800-GAY-MEDIA (1-800-429-6334).



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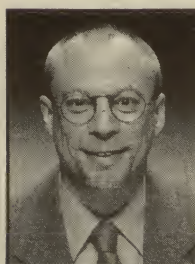
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Gay man wins in New Jersey Scout case

United Press International

It's now okay to be gay and be a Boy Scout in New Jersey.

An appeals court ruled Monday, March 2 that James Dale, who was dismissed from his assistant scoutmaster position in 1990 when he revealed he was gay, was the victim of discrimination, and is eligible for monetary damages and reinstatement.

Officials of the Boy Scouts of America say they will appeal the decision to the state's Supreme Court.

Boy Scouts attorney Greg

Shields says Dale was not a suitable leader. "A homosexual is not a role model for the values that are taught by the Boy Scouts of America," he said. "We do not offer leadership or membership to avowed homosexuals."

Ed Martone, executive director of New Jersey's American Civil Liberties Union applauds the ruling. He said, "This is going to send a public education message out to employers and landlords that among the many categories in which they cannot discriminate, sexual orientation is among them." ▼



James Dale

Clinton backs Hormel nomination in SF speech

by Paul Basken, UPI

President Bill Clinton came to San Francisco Wednesday, February 25 to rail against the cynicism in Washington politics and voice his support for a gay nominee to an ambassadorial post.

Clinton took the opportunity to challenge the Republican-led Senate to act on his nomination last October of San Francisco native James Hormel to be ambassador to Luxembourg. In recent weeks GOP lawmakers have stepped up their criticism of Hormel, ostensibly based on his record of Democratic campaign donations but widely believed to be linked to his declared homosexuality.

After Clinton received thanks from Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi for "sticking with" the Hormel meatpacking fortune heir, Clinton declared to cheers that the Senate should act on the basis of

one question: "Will he or will he not be a good ambassador?"

So far, U.S. Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott has said three Republican lawmakers — Senators James Inhofe, Tim Hutchinson, and Robert Smith — plus an unspecified number of anonymous senators, have put "holds" on Hormel's nomination. Although that does not preclude his eventually getting the post, it does mean that it will probably come with a fight.

Clinton also used his speech at the event, a fundraiser for California Democrats Mike Thompson and Lois Capps, to marvel at Pelosi's ability to retain her optimism through her years in Washington. The president said, "Anyone who can work there as long as she has and never lose their ideology is a truly remarkable public servant."

Referring to Thompson, who would give up his job in the state Senate in Sacramento, Clinton said he would be leaving "a more

congenial lifestyle." And in praising Capps, seeking to replace her late husband Walter in Congress, Clinton called the couple emblematic of those with "more concern about people and less concern about power."

Following the \$1,000-per-person reception at the Fairmont Hotel, Clinton joined some 40 guests for a \$10,000-per-couple dinner at the San Francisco home of Hambrecht & Quist investment firm founder Bill Hambrecht. Together the two events were expected to raise about \$500,000 for the Democratic party and its candidates.

Clinton was dogged at both events by groups of several dozen protesters angered by his threats to order military strikes against Iraq if it does not cooperate fully with U.N. weapons inspectors. Those at the first event waved signs and chanted, "No blood for oil," while those at the second preferred "Clinton, Clinton, you can't hide, we charge you with genocide." ▼

Gay marriage wins in Alaska

by Bob Roehr

Gay marriage got a big boost Friday, February 27 when an Alaska judge effectively ruled that state legislation banning same-sex marriage is unconstitutional. While legal proceedings and appeals may drag on for years, the principle seems likely to stand.

Jay Brause and Gene Dugan were married 18 years ago in a small religious ceremony attended by family and friends. In 1995 they sought state recognition through a marriage license but were turned down. That is when they initiated this lawsuit. The state legislature reacted by passing a law banning same-sex marriage.

"Marriage, i.e. the recognition of one's choice of a life partner, is a fundamental right," wrote superior court judge Peter A. Michalski in his decision. "The state must therefore have a compelling interest that supports its decision to refuse to recognize the exercise of this fundamental right by those who choose same-sex partners rather than opposite-sex partners."

"It is the definition of marriage

itself which the court must test."

Michalski rejected tradition saying, "In some parts of our nation mere acceptance of the familiar would have left segregation in place."

He laid out the argument with stunning clarity. "The relevant question is not whether same-sex marriage is so rooted in our traditions that it is a fundamental right, but whether the freedom to choose one's own life partner is so rooted in our tradition."

"It is the decision itself that is fundamental, whether the decision results in a traditional choice or the nontraditional choice Brause and Dugan seek to have recognized. The same constitution protects both."

Michalski said that any state law violating these rights must be subject to "strict scrutiny." It is virtually impossible to meet those standards the way that term has been interpreted by both state and federal courts. The state has vowed to appeal this summary judgment to the Alaska Supreme Court. Most observers believe the appeal holds little chance of success.

Evan Wolfson, who heads up

the Marriage Project at the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, said Lambda has long viewed Alaska as "a promising state because of the strong protections in the state constitution." The group had initial and ongoing discussion with the plaintiffs, but disagreed on timing and so did not join the case.

He called the decision "thrilling," and said, "It reinforces the fact that this is a national civil rights movement that more and more people, given the chance to talk and think about our freedom to marry, will support."

He thinks it sends "a very positive message to the Hawaii Supreme Court that they are not alone" in positively deciding the marriage rights of lesbians and gays. A final ruling from that body is expected soon.

But Wolfson cautions that the community cannot simply rely upon the courts. "Our job is to take these very simple truths and go out and talk with people, and give them a chance to get used to the truth. But if we don't go out and talk, they don't have an opportunity to hear it." ▼

RESTORING LEAN BODY MASS JUST GOT A SHOT IN THE ARM

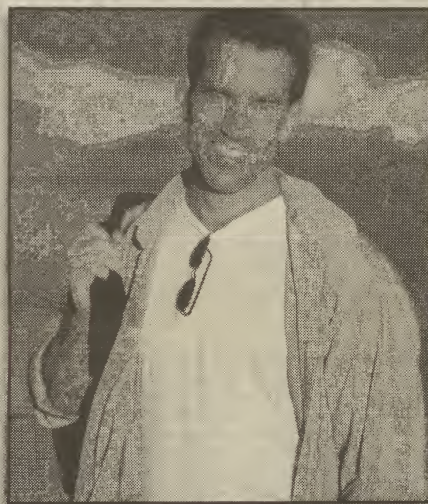
*SEROSTIM combats the loss of lean body mass in ways other treatments don't.**

SEROSTIM is indicated for the treatment of AIDS wasting or cachexia, in combination with antiviral therapy, based on analysis of intermediate effects in studies up to 12 weeks duration.

You may know that wasting robs a person of lean muscle and organ mass, and physical performance. But did you know that it can strike anyone with HIV? At any time? Even while your weight remains constant? That's because you could be adding fat to your body while still losing lean body mass (LBM).

If you are experiencing wasting, discuss with your doctor whether SEROSTIM—human growth hormone—might be right for you.

SEROSTIM rebuilds LBM and improves physical performance while reducing body fat. Studies show that without the LBM you need, you could become weaker, get sick more often and may not live as long as people who are not losing lean body mass; although the clinical significance of treatment-induced weight gain and increasing LBM have not been established. Physical performance was assessed by treadmill exercise testing. Grip strength, another measure of muscle performance may decline, probably due to increased tissue fullness, which sometimes occurs with growth hormone. Subjective assessment of performance was measured in a nine-point questionnaire. SEROSTIM showed significant improvements on two points—change in appearance and overall benefit of therapy—while results of the other measures were inconclusive. Patients who continue to lose weight in their first two weeks of therapy should be reevaluated.



SEROSTIM isn't a steroid, an appetite stimulant or nutritional supplement. It's a completely new anabolic (LBM building) and anticatabolic (inhibits LBM breakdown) treatment that increases LBM and improves physical performance by interacting with a variety of cell types.

One way to know for sure if your treatment has restored LBM is to ask your doctor about BIA or Bioelectrical Impedance Analysis. BIA measures body composition so changes in LBM can be monitored. It takes just 5 minutes and is completely painless. If your physician cannot provide

BIA testing, ask him/her to call Serono at 800-714-2437 and a representative will help your physician gain access to a BIA system on your behalf.

People on SEROSTIM may observe side effects. In clinical trials, patients treated with SEROSTIM noticed muscle and joint soreness (53.7% vs. 33.3% for placebo) and swelling in the hands and feet (27.3% vs. 2.7% for placebo). Physicians rated these symptoms as mild-to-moderate, and in most cases they will subside with continued treatment. Hyperglycemia may occur in HIV-infected individuals due to a variety of reasons. SEROSTIM use was associated with a minimal increase of mean blood glucose concentration. Also, SEROSTIM must be used along with anti-HIV drug therapy. Data related to interactions between SEROSTIM and anti-HIV treatments are not yet available.

Wasting is treatable. See your doctor or call the SEROSTIM Access Line at 800-714-2437 to find out about SEROSTIM's solution. ■

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*Serostim is an anabolic and anticatabolic agent that works by interacting with specific receptors on a variety of cell types. For additional information about Serostim, please refer to the brief summary on the next page.

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[somatotropin (rDNA origin) for injection]

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BRIEF SUMMARY. SEE FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION BEFORE PRESCRIBING.

INDICATIONS AND USAGE: Serostim® (somatropin [rDNA origin] for injection) is indicated for the treatment of AIDS wasting or cachexia. This indication is based on analyses of surrogate endpoints in studies of up to 12 weeks in duration. Concomitant anti-viral therapy is necessary (see PRECAUTIONS: General). The continued use of Serostim treatment should be reevaluated in patients who continue to lose weight in the first two weeks of treatment.

CONTRAINDICATIONS: Serostim is contraindicated in patients with a known hypersensitivity to growth hormone.

PRECAUTIONS: General: Serostim therapy should be carried out under the regular guidance of a physician who is experienced in the diagnosis and management of AIDS. Inadequate nutritional intake, malabsorption and hypogonadism, which are common in individuals with AIDS and which may contribute to catabolism and weight loss, should also be monitored and treated.

HIV and Growth Hormone Considerations: In some experimental systems, recombinant human Growth Hormone (r-hGH) has been shown to potentiate HIV replication in vitro at concentrations ranging from 50-250 ng/ml. There was no increase in virus production when the antiretroviral agents, zidovudine, didanosine or lamivudine were added to the culture medium. Additional in vitro studies have shown that r-hGH does not interfere with the antiviral activity of zalcitabine or stavudine. In the controlled clinical trials, no significant growth hormone-associated increase in viral burden was observed. However, the protocol required all participants to be on concomitant nucleoside analogue therapy for the duration of the study. In view of the potential for acceleration of virus replication, it is recommended that HIV+ patients be maintained on nucleoside analogue therapy for the duration of Serostim treatment.

Increased tissue turgor (swelling, particularly in the hands and feet) and musculoskeletal discomfort (pain, swelling and/or stiffness) may occur during treatment with Serostim, but may resolve spontaneously, with analgesic therapy, or after reducing the frequency of dosing (see DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION).

Carpal tunnel syndrome may occur during treatment with Serostim. If the symptoms of carpal tunnel syndrome do not resolve by decreasing the weekly number of doses of Serostim, it is recommended that treatment be discontinued.

Patients should be informed that allergic reactions are possible and that prompt medical attention should be sought if an allergic reaction occurs. None of the 188 study participants with AIDS wasting who were evaluable for antibody assessments and who were treated with Serostim for the first time developed detectable antibodies to growth hormone (> 4 pg binding). Patients were not rechallenged.

Recombinant Human Growth Hormone (r-hGH) has been associated with acute pancreatitis.

Hyperglycemia may occur in HIV-infected individuals due to a variety of reasons. Serostim use was associated with a minimal increase of mean blood glucose concentration. Patients with other risk factors for glucose intolerance should be monitored closely during Serostim therapy.

No cases of intracranial hypertension (IH) have been observed among patients with AIDS wasting treated with Serostim. The syndrome of IH, with papilledema, visual changes, headache, and nausea and/or vomiting has been reported in a small number of children with growth failure treated with growth hormone products. Nevertheless, fundoscopic evaluation of patients is recommended at the initiation and periodically during the course of Serostim therapy.

Kaposi's sarcoma, lymphoma, and other malignancies are common in HIV+ individuals. There was no increase in the incidence of Kaposi's sarcoma, lymphoma, or in the progression of cutaneous Kaposi's sarcoma in clinical studies of Serostim. Patients with internal KS lesions were excluded from the studies. Potential effects on other malignancies are unknown.

Information For Patients: Patients being treated with Serostim should be informed of the potential benefits and risks associated with treatment. Patients should be instructed to contact their physician should they experience any side effects or discomfort during treatment with Serostim. It is recommended that Serostim be administered using sterile, disposable syringes and needles. Patients should be thoroughly instructed in the importance of proper disposal and cautioned against any reuse of needles and syringes. An appropriate container for the disposal of used syringes and needles should be employed. Patients should be instructed to rotate injection sites to avoid lipodystrophy.

Drug Interactions: Formal in vitro drug interaction studies have not been conducted. No data are available on drug interactions between Serostim and HIV protease inhibitors or the non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors.

Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility: Long-term animal studies for carcinogenicity have not been performed with Serostim. There is no evidence from animal studies to date of Serostim-induced mutagenicity or impairment of fertility.

Pregnancy: Pregnancy Category B. Reproduction studies have been performed in rats and rabbits. Doses up to 5 to 10 times the human dose, based on body surface area, have revealed no evidence of impaired fertility or harm to the fetus due to Serostim. There are, however, no adequate and well controlled studies in pregnant women. Because animal reproduction studies are not always predictive of human response, this drug should be used during pregnancy only if clearly needed.

Nursing Women: It is not known whether Serostim is excreted in human milk. Because many drugs are excreted in human milk, caution should be exercised when Serostim is administered to a nursing woman.

Pediatric Use: Safety and effectiveness in pediatric patients with AIDS have not been established.

ADVERSE REACTIONS: In two placebo-controlled clinical trials in which 205 patients were treated with Serostim the most common adverse reactions judged to be associated with Serostim were musculoskeletal discomfort and increased tissue turgor (swelling, particularly of the hands or feet) (see PRECAUTIONS: General). These symptoms were generally rated by investigators as mild to moderate in severity and usually subsided with continued treatment. Discontinuations as a result of these events were rare.

Table 1: Controlled Trials Adverse Events

Adverse Event	Serostim (n=205)		Placebo (n=150)	
	%		%	
Musculoskeletal discomfort	53.7		33.3	
Fever	31.2		29.3	
Increased tissue turgor	27.3		2.7	
Diarrhea	25.9		20.0	
Neuropathy	25.9		17.3	
Nausea	25.9		16.0	
Headache	19.0		20.7	
Abdominal pain	17.1		18.7	
Fatigue	17.1		16.0	
Leukopenia	15.1		24.7	
Albuminuria	15.1		9.3	
Granulocytopenia	14.1		21.3	
Lymphadenopathy	14.1		16.0	
Increased sweating	14.1		8.7	
Anorexia	12.2		9.3	
Anemia	12.2		8.7	
Vomiting	11.7		12.0	
SGOT increased	11.7		6.0	
Insomnia	11.2		9.3	
Tachycardia	11.2		6.0	
Hyperglycemia	10.2		6.0	
SGPT increased	10.2		5.3	

Because of the diverse clinical manifestations of AIDS, and the frequent occurrence of adverse events associated with underlying disease process, it was often difficult to distinguish adverse events possibly associated with the administration of Serostim from underlying signs or symptoms of AIDS or associated intercurrent illnesses.

Clinical adverse events which occurred during the first 12 weeks of study in at least 10% of those who received Serostim during the two placebo-controlled trials are listed below by treatment group, without regard to causality assessment.

Adverse events that occurred in 1% to less than 10% of study participants receiving Serostim in the two placebo-controlled clinical efficacy studies are listed below by body system. The list of adverse events has been compiled regardless of causal relationship to Serostim.

Body as a Whole: rigors, flu-like symptoms, back pain, malaise, asthenia, carpal tunnel syndrome (see PRECAUTIONS: General), chest pain, hot flashes, allergic reaction. **Gastrointestinal System:** oral leukoplakia, flatulence, dyspepsia, dry mouth, constipation, ulcerative stomatitis, increased amylase, dysphagia, esophagitis, colitis, pancreatitis, rectal disorder, gastritis, tongue ulceration, gingivitis. **Musculoskeletal System:** muscle weakness. **Central and Peripheral Nervous System:** dizziness, convulsions, hypertonía, neuralgia, tremor, encephalopathy, nystagmus, meningism. **Respiratory System:** dyspnea, coughing, sinusitis, upper respiratory tract infection, pharyngitis, rhinitis, pneumonia, bronchitis, increased sputum, respiratory disorder, bronchospasm, pneumonitis, pleurisy. **White Blood Cell and Reticuloendothelial System Disorders:** cervical lymphadenopathy, eosinophilia. **Skin and Appendages:** skin disorder, folliculitis, rash, alopecia, photosensitivity reaction, erythematous rash, pruritus, abnormal pigmentation, seborrhea, dermatitis, skin ulceration, acne, skin discoloration, verruca. **Psychiatric:** depression, anxiety, somnolence, nervousness, appetite increased, amnesia, abnormal thinking. **Metabolic and Nutritional:** hypertriglyceridemia, increased alkaline phosphatase, dehydration, increased creatinine phosphokinase, increased LDH, glycosuria, hypokalemia, cachexia, thirst, acidosis. **Immune System Dysfunction:** moniliasis, bacterial infection, Pneumocystis carinii infection, viral infection, infection, Herpes simplex, sepsis, abscess, fungal infection, Herpes zoster. **Urinary System:** hematuria, urinary tract infection, nocturia. **Liver and Biliary System:** abnormal hepatic function, hepatomegaly, hepatitis. **Vision:** retinitis, abnormal vision, photophobia. **Platelet, Bleeding and Clotting:** thrombocytopenia, purpura. **Cardiovascular, General:** abnormal ECG, heart murmur, hypertension, hypotension. **Application Site:** injection site pain, injection site reaction. **Neoplasms:** Kaposi's sarcoma. **Male Reproductive:** epididymitis, penis disorder, inguinal hernia. **Hearing and Vestibular:** earache, ear disorder, decreasing hearing. **Endocrine:** gynecomastia, male breast pain.

The types and incidences of adverse events reported in an open-label, extension trial and in a single, foreign trial, for up to one year, were not different from, or greater in frequency, than those observed in the primary, placebo-controlled, clinical trials.

OVERDOSAGE

Glucose intolerance can occur with overdosage. Long-term overdosage with growth hormone could result in signs and symptoms of acromegaly.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Serostim® (somatropin [rDNA origin] for injection) should be administered subcutaneously daily at bedtime according to the following dosage recommendations:

Weight Range	Dose*
>55 kg	6 mg SC daily
45-55 kg	5 mg SC daily
35-45 kg	4 mg SC daily

*Based on an approximate daily dosage of 0.1 mg/kg.

In patients who weigh less than 35 kg, Serostim should be administered at a dose of 0.1 mg/kg subcutaneously daily at bedtime. Dose reductions for side effects felt to be related to treatment with Serostim, which are unresponsive to symptomatic treatment, may be effected by reducing the total daily dose or the number of doses given per week.

In patients who continue to lose weight at week 2, reevaluate for concurrent opportunistic infections or other clinical events.

Injection sites should be rotated.

Safety and effectiveness in pediatric patients with AIDS have not been established.

Each vial of Serostim 5 mg or 6 mg is reconstituted with 1 mL sterile water for injection. To reconstitute Serostim, inject the diluent into the vial of Serostim aiming the liquid against the glass vial wall. Swirl the vial with a gentle rotary motion until contents are dissolved completely. The Serostim solution should be clear immediately after reconstitution. **DO NOT INJECT** Serostim if the reconstituted product is cloudy immediately after reconstitution or refrigeration. Occasionally, after refrigeration, small colorless particles may be present in the Serostim solution. This is not unusual for proteins like Serostim.

STABILITY AND STORAGE

Before reconstitution: Serostim should be stored at room temperature, 59° - 86°F (15° - 30°C). Expiration dates are stated on product labels.

After reconstitution: Use within 24 hours after reconstitution with diluent. The reconstituted solution should be stored under refrigerated conditions (36° - 46°F/2° - 8°C).

Sterile Diluent, 1 mL (Sterile Water for Injection, USP) should be stored at room temperature, 59° - 86°F (15° - 30°C). Avoid freezing vials of Serostim and Sterile Diluent.

HOW SUPPLIED

Serostim is available in the following forms:

Serostim vials containing 5 mg (approximately 15 IU) somatropin (mammalian-cell) with Sterile Water for Injection, USP.

Package of 7 vials. NDC 44087-0005-7

Serostim vials containing 6 mg (approximately 18 IU) somatropin (mammalian-cell) with Sterile Water for Injection, USP.

Package of 7 vials. NDC 44087-0006-7

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Caution: Federal law prohibits dispensing without prescription.

July 1996



Serostim®

[somatropin (rDNA origin) for injection]

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April 1997

SLI-97-8057

COMMUNITY NEWS

Limited scholarships for AIDS Update Conference

by Cynthia Laird

People with HIV/AIDS may attend the 10th National AIDS Update Conference scheduled for March 24-27 in San Francisco, as it focuses on the changing nature of HIV- and AIDS-related care as well as the changes the epidemic has brought about in healthcare, for reduced prices or for free. A spokesman for KREBS Convention Management Services, which puts on the annual event, told the B.A.R. that regular registration fees for PWAs have been reduced to \$110 per person, from the regular \$290.

According to Terry Evans with KREBS, a "very limited number of scholarships" are available for people with HIV/AIDS who cannot afford the \$110 and who send requests in writing to the company.

The issue of scholarships arose just before last year's event, after activists complained there was no mention of them in registration materials. Like last year, the Mayor's HIV Health Services Planning Council wrote to KREBS requesting that it publicize information about scholarships more widely for this year's conference.

"Our Nation's Challenge: The

Next Decade" is the theme for this year's conference, which typically draws people from across the country and provides participants with an opportunity not only to reflect on what has occurred in the past decade, but also to discuss and plan for the future. The conference's goal is to provide opportunities for dialogue between healthcare service providers in order to find the best means to meet the special challenges that the epidemic presents. The program will include five tracks: prevention and education; policy and administration; care and services; treatment and health; and adolescents and young people.

Organizers have also chosen to make women a major focus of this year's conference, both by increasing the number of sessions addressing the needs of women and by including "women" as a plenary session and intensive workshop subject. The intensive workshops take place Tuesday, March 24; there is an additional registration fee to attend.

The plenary sessions and 90-minute workshops, as well as other events, will address the following issues:

- Populations most unaffected by the recent advances in treatment methodologies;

- New research and recent advances in clinical management of PWAs;
- Effective prevention and education options;
- Early intervention, including counseling, testing, and case management services;
- The continuing and emerging role of healthcare providers in the new era of HIV infection as a chronic disease;
- Ethical, legal, administrative, and policy issues;
- Current and ongoing legislative proposals and changes in healthcare delivery;
- Questions of access, treatment, financing, long-term care, and housing for PWAs;
- Alternative therapies and treatments.

There will also be a number of exhibits at the conference and an opening reception. All events take place at the Bill Graham Civic Auditorium at 99 Grove Street, off the corner of Market and Larkin streets. ▼

PWAs interested in applying for a scholarship should write to KREBS at 657 Carolina Street, San Francisco, CA 94107-2725. For other registration information, call (800) 387-6061 or visit the website www.nauc.org.

range), the number of that generation bashed was down from the previous year's 188.

Battered kids

Meanwhile, the number of youths bashed climbed. A total of 41 persons in the gay youth category (17 of them under 18) were attacked in 1997, up from 30 in 1996. Only in the under-22 age group did hate crimes show an increase.

This trend involving San Francisco youth mirrors a national upswing in hate crimes against high-school and college age queers. According to the NCAVP, the number of under-18 victims increased 10 percent, while those 22 and under increased 35 percent.

Among San Francisco neighborhoods where anti-gay violence occurred, the Mission leads with 50 incidents, followed by the Tenderloin (43), SoMa (31), Polk Street (25), the Castro (25), the Haight (15), and Potrero Hill (11). The location of 48 incidents was not identified by neighborhood.

By far the greatest number of hate crimes committed in San Francisco last year involved intimidation and harassment, but assaults with a weapon were reported in 47 cases (down from 66 the previous year). Assaults without a weapon numbered 127. Bashers used knives or clubs 25 times last year to attack queers.

Seventy queers suffered serious injuries as a result of bashings, while another 111 queers received minor injuries.

In one encouraging sign, the number of sexual assaults and/or rapes committed against San Francisco queers fell substantially in 1997, down to 10 from the prior year's 22.

While CNAV credits the San Francisco Police Department with maintaining "a high level of cooperation and responsiveness" in the face of these disturbing develop-

ments, the report also indicates that 42 law-enforcement officers perpetrated anti-queer violence.

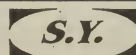
Even so, in many cases victims found officers responding to queer bashings to be courteous, or indifferent at worst, while only seven victims reported the police to be verbally abusive.

While co-workers, acquaintances, friends, family members, building tenants, and neighbors were identified as the perpetrators in 138 incidents, 282 instances involved bashers unknown to the victim. In no instance was an ex-lover reported to have committed a hate crime, and only once in the case of a lover.

The great majority (74 percent) of last year's 651 bashers in San Francisco reportedly were male, though the gender was unknown in 81 cases; 113 (about 18 percent) of the perpetrators were juveniles under 18; and whites committed nearly a quarter of all bashings where the race or ethnicity of the attacker was identified (in most cases, such identity remained unknown). African-Americans came in second, identified as the bashers in about 18 percent of all last year's cases.

In its conclusions about the report, the NCAVP noted that schools, in particular, "are failing to institute effective anti-bias curricula — if they have any such programs at all — and are negligent in their duty to protect their students from violence and harassment."

The organization noted that schools can play a central role in the fight against hate crimes: "Teachers and administrators have an obligation to keep their students safe, including LGBTQ youth. They can only meet this obligation by creating a climate in the schools that promotes acceptance of people regardless of their sexual orientation, gender-identity, or HIV status." ▼

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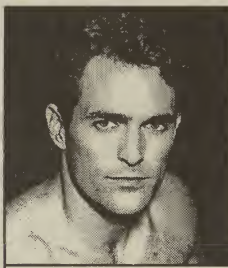
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Ruling forces Oakland to expand DPs to hets

by Terrance Boykin

In response to two filed complaints, State Labor Commissioner Jose Millan has ruled that the city of Oakland's domestic partnership law, which grants medical benefits to solely to gay and lesbian couples, discriminated against domestic opposite-sex partners employed by the city. The Oakland City Council passed a resolution in July 1996 clearing the way for qualified partners of city employees to become eligible for medical benefits. The city has offered vision and dental benefits to domestic partners of city workers regardless of gender since 1993.

San Francisco has a similar law, but it applies to heterosexual domestic partners as well as same-sex couples. However, the East Bay city has been fighting off discrimination complaints from heterosexual employees who have do-

mestic partners yet are not eligible for the benefits. The labor office issued its first decision last October and the city lost its appeal.

That case involves Mickey Ayyoub, a city engineer since 1990, who filed a complaint with the state labor commission after being denied medical benefits for his female domestic partner. According to Rick Rice, deputy director for communications with the labor commissioner's office, Ayyoub and his attorney are currently in the process of negotiating some kind of settlement with the city of Oakland.

"Once a settlement has been reached the Labor Commissioner will determine whether to go forward with the law suit," Rice said.

The second and most recent complaint filed against the city involves Allen Edwards, a longtime Oakland firefighter. The commissioner's office is still investigating Edwards's claim.

Oakland City Councilmember John Russo, who helped get the law passed two years ago, was traveling out of state and unavailable for comment. The city's response to the complaints and the commissioner's ruling was to file an appeal in hopes of keeping the current policy in tact, but the labor commissioner's ruling was upheld.

The commissioner's ruling requires the city to extend their benefits program to include heterosexual couples registered as domestic partners with the city. The labor commissioner's office has characterized Oakland's refusal to change the law as stubborn, and maintains the city is in violation of State Labor Code 1102.1, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation in employment.

If Oakland fails to comply with the ruling, the city could be sued by the state of California. ▼

Brown, Migden to officiate at 'Same-sex wedding II' March 25

by Cynthia Laird

Here come the brides — and the grooms, too, for that matter. Mayor Willie Brown and Assemblywoman Carole Migden will once again officiate a same-sex wedding ceremony at City Hall on Wednesday, March 25 — exactly two years after they presided over the first such ceremony in San Francisco. Michael Colbruno, deputy director of legislative affairs for the mayor's office, said organizers are looking for the 10 same-sex couples in the city who have been together the longest as the theme for this year's event is celebrating long-term commitment. The first 50 couples to contact the city clerk's office will be married at the ceremony. After that, the next 50 couples will have a wedding ceremony, but it won't be that day.

Couples must register as domestic partners to get married. There is a \$35 fee for the registra-

tion; additionally there's a \$30 fee for the ceremony. Couples who are already registered need only pay the wedding fee.

Colbruno said the ceremony hopes to boost public support of same-sex marriages, which has never been very high. "In the two years since [the first same-sex wedding], support has never gone above 38 percent," Colbruno told the B.A.R., adding that there will be a special presentation made by the mayor and Migden to the 10 couples who have been together the longest.

Prior to the ceremony, there will be entertainment and a reception; Colbruno is looking for

bands and donated items such as flowers and food. The ceremony will take place in the Green Room, on the second floor of the temporary city hall, 401 Van Ness Avenue.

The evening ceremony will get underway with the reception from 5 to 5:30 p.m., followed by the ceremony. ▼

Couples interested in the ceremony should contact the clerk's office at (415) 252-3281. For more information or to donate items for the event, call Colbruno at (415) 554-6974.

AEF meeting changed

The AEF has rescheduled its town hall meeting to next Thursday, March 12, beginning at 7 p.m. It will be held at Charpe's Restaurant, located at 131 Gough Street (at Oak).

It will be an open-format meeting, and the community is encouraged to attend. ▼

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Gays lobby Santa Clara County supes to overturn DP registry

by Cynthia Laird

The South Bay's gay community asked the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors to repeal the county's domestic partner registry last Tuesday, February 25; some activists said it was done to avoid a costly ballot fight with right-wing extremists who had gathered enough signatures to force the voters to decide on the registry. The supervisors voted 4-1 to rescind the registry, which was passed in August 1996 but had never actually gone into effect because a coalition of taxpayer and religious groups collected 60,000 signatures for the ballot measure.

Wiggy Siversten, sociology professor at San Jose State University and a longtime lesbian activist, told the B.A.R. there are too many other things for queers in the South Bay to spend their time — and more importantly, their money — on. Siversten also said that the registry was a flawed plan from the beginning because it was proposed by former Supervisor Mike Honda during his successful campaign for the Assembly. Honda beat gay candidate Ken Yeager, who had the backing of the Bay Area Municipal Elections Committee (BAYMEC), co-founded by Siversten.

Last week's meeting was anything but civil, as religious fanatics spewed homophobic comments to the point where Board Chairwoman Blanca Alvarado called for future community forums to discuss AIDS and hate crimes issues. Supervisor Jim Simitjan, the lone vote against repealing the registry, said the board should take a stand against intolerance.

"Some members of the gay community disagreed with us," Siversten acknowledged, "but I've never seen their checks [to fight the ballot measure]. We went to



Wiggy Siversten: "It felt to me that...this was not the best use of investing our time and energy."

the board and asked them to repeal it. I felt badly, but I think it's important to have a center, a place where kids can go, and a place where adults can go that's not a bar." Preliminary data indicated that between \$7,000 and \$10,000 would need to be spent conducting polls of likely voters; Siversten said that money "never materialized."

Siversten came close to, but stopped short of, directly saying Honda's push for the registry in 1996 was a blatant political maneuver by a straight candidate at the expense of his openly gay opponent. "If we'd had an opportunity to talk about it in the beginning, I don't think this would have happened," Siversten said, referring to Honda's initial legislation that established the registry.

"It felt to me that, since a domestic partner registry exists in

Palo Alto at the present time, this was not the best use of investing our time and energy." The Palo Alto registry is open to same-sex couples who reside anywhere in the county.

The gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender community in Santa Clara County is in the midst of a huge capital campaign to build a permanent Billy De Frank Center. The city of San Jose kicked in approximately \$2 million to purchase the land but the De Frank Center has to come up with construction costs that are estimated at around \$5 million. It would have cost an estimated \$300,000 to fight the June ballot initiative over the registry and contributions were not forthcoming, she added. Barbara Jean Jones, executive director of the De Frank Center, did not return phone calls from the B.A.R. ▼

SF partners

◀ page 1

race, no one would consider making such a ridiculous argument. We have been more than fair in allowing them to wait for a ruling before requiring them to comply."

Renne said the city will fight the TRO. "I am disappointed in the ruling because I do believe there are other potential tenants who are not discriminating in the provision of benefits," she said.

Fed Ex is the only cargo carrier at SFO that leases a facility from the city on airport property. "Other carriers serve San Francisco without the special benefit of an on-site facility," Renne said. "We believe that Federal Express has other options if it chooses not to sign a new lease."

Initially, the ATA tried to file the TRO on behalf of Fed Ex, but Wilken ruled February 26 that the cargo company must sue in its own name to seek a restraining order. "The court has serious concerns about whether plaintiffs have associational standing to challenge the ordinance as applied

to Fed Ex's proposed lease to the property," Wilken stated in her ruling. Following that decision, Fed Ex walked back into court the next day and filed suit on its own behalf, clearing the way for Wilken to issue the TRO.

The ATA counts among its members virtually every major U.S. air carrier, including United Airlines, which is widely believed to have instigated the lawsuit. Fed Ex is a member.

Jeff Sheehy of the Harvey Milk Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Democratic Club, which originally drafted the law in 1996, criticized United and Fed Ex. "They have not been satis-

fied to allow people the right to be treated equally, but instead have gone to court and fought this," Sheehy told the B.A.R. "Perhaps they are happy in their discrimination, but our community should take note the next time they send a package or book a flight."

Sheehy pointed to the sweeping success of the law, which went into effect June 1, 1997. Since then, nearly 3,000 companies covering over 600,000 employees have complied with the ordinance by agreeing not to discriminate in the provision of benefits. ▼

TG in SFPD

◀ page 1

on the matter except to say Rivas "was not unfairly discriminated against. Her problem was in the background investigation." A lieutenant in the department's personnel office said the case is confidential.

Currently, the SFPD employs one transgender police officer,

Stephan Thorne, who works out of Ingleside Station.

"I always wanted to be a police officer," said Rivas, who added she regrets she might have to seek legal redress if her current appeal of the SFPD's decision against her goes nowhere.

"I'm not here to sue for a large amount of money," she said. "I'm here to be a police officer. I'm being compelled by necessity to take this action." ▼

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EAT IN
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State Court upholds anti-pot club ruling

by Liz Highleyman

The California Supreme Court decided Wednesday, February 25 not to hear the appeal of an earlier court decision that could close establishments providing medicinal marijuana to persons with conditions such as AIDS wasting, glaucoma, and nausea due to chemotherapy.

At the center of the case is the Cannabis Cultivators Club (previously known as the Cannabis Buyers Club) run by Republican gubernatorial candidate Dennis Peron. The club was raided in August 1996, but was allowed to reopen by Superior Court Judge David Garcia after the passage of Proposition 215 in November 1996. The proposition — which was approved by 56 percent of the state's voters — allowed the possession by patients and primary caregivers of marijuana for medical use, although it made no provision for the sale or transport of the product.

In December 1997, the First District Court of Appeal overturned Garcia's decision and ruled that state law does not permit any person or organization to sell marijuana. The Supreme Court declined to hear the case, thus allowing the First District Court decision to stand. By declining to review the case, the state's high court ensured that the decision would be binding on all trial courts in California, and thus could affect the more than 20 medical marijuana establishments in the state.

The Cannabis Cultivators Club had argued that it was acting as a primary caregiver for its clients, a claim the District Court justices rejected. As defined by Proposition 215, a caregiver is one who has "consistently assumed responsibility for the housing, health, or safety of that person," a condition that cannot be met by a commercial enterprise like the CCC, according to presiding District Court Justice J. Clinton Peterson.

The court ruled that people can only legally obtain marijuana for medicinal purposes by growing it or having a caregiver grow it for them. The Cannabis Cultivators Club asserts that it is in com-

pliance with the law because it no longer sells cannabis, but rather is reimbursed for the expenses of growing plants for patients. Peron plans to continue operating despite the Supreme Court's decision. "We have always served a higher law — the law of saving lives," he said. "It will always be legal to save a life."

Last week's ruling clears the way for Attorney General Dan Lungren to close the city's cannabis clubs. Assemblywoman Carol Migden opposed such a measure, saying, "The Attorney General is placing politics before people in a way that will decrease the quality of life for many people

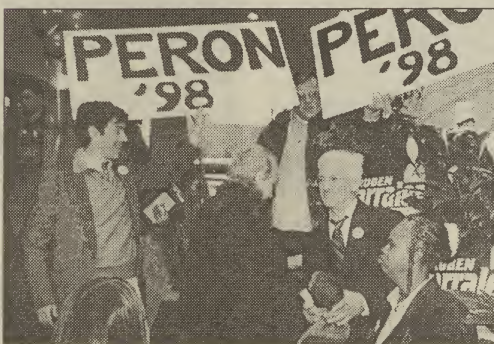
living with life-threatening illnesses."

In addition to Peron's club, Cannabis Helping Alleviate Medical Problems (CHAMP) is once again open, and the Medical Marijuana Delivery Service continues to serve patients. Flower Therapy and Dharma closed in the wake of the December ruling. A federal case is still pending against the Cannabis Cultivators Club, Flower Therapy, and four other northern California medical marijuana establishments. That case follows a suit filed by U.S. Attorney Michael Yamaguchi, who argued that federal laws prohibiting the sale of marijuana take prece-

dence over state laws such as Proposition 215.

The day after the Supreme Court's decision, Lungren's office sent a letter to Judge Garcia saying that the Cannabis Cultivators Club — which the letter referred to as a "drug house" — was in violation of the injunction and asking him to move to close the club immediately. Club members went to court on Tuesday, March 3 to argue against closure, but Garcia was ill and the case was postponed. A hearing is scheduled for April 3, during which Lungren and club representatives will present their arguments for and against closure, respectively. ▼

Peronistas invade Republicans



Convention crashers: Peron and friends storm the prickly RSC Feb. 21.

by Marghe Covino
B.A.R. Capitol
Correspondent

BURLINGAME, CA — Leading a diverse group of about 50 supporters, Dennis Peron, the openly gay candidate for governor of California, tried to attend the Republican State Convention at the Burlingame Hyatt last Saturday, February 21, and was denied entry.

After being turned away from the lobby entrance by hotel security, the group went to another door, through the kitchen, up a flight of interior stairs, and into the hotel lobby where Peron delivered an extemporaneous speech while his supporters unfurled signs reading "Peron for Governor" and "Compassion, Hope and Love."

Peron supporter Randi Webster told the B.A.R., "It was really quite something; they wouldn't let us in the front door, and we were looking good. We were all dressed up. I saw people wearing suits that I never thought I'd see dressed up — they had no reason to turn us away."

Campaign volunteer Lynne Barnes, a nurse, said, "After we finally got in, we were in the lobby with our signs and we were the only ones who had signs which actually had a message. There were all kinds of us, gay people, straight people, black people, brown people, some sick, some with KS lesions — the Lungren people seemed intimidated. A Lungren supporter, thinking one of our people was a convention delegate, warned, 'Don't get too close to them — some of them could be sick and they could be contagious.' They were really tense, but then they began to chant 'Go Dan Go' and we chanted 'Peron, Peron,' and then we left."

Wayne Justmann, who was in the first wave of people seeking entrance, said that when the group was first denied entrance, they were directed down a sidewalk where another security guard told them they were trespassing on private property and ordered them to leave. Justmann said they were Republican delegates and attempted to open the door but was turned away. "That's when we went through the kitchen to the lobby floor."

"There was no way we would be denied being heard. This is America and we had every right to be heard," Justmann said. "Nothing would prevent us from

supporting our candidate for governor; Dennis Peron is on the ballot — besides, it was great fun."

A breath of light

Justmann noted that the Republicans are touting the "big tent" party, "but when they saw our group it was obvious that part of their tent is starting to fall down. But even with all that happening, I was approached by one delegate, his name was Paul, and he told me some of the delegates felt we brought a ray of light into the arena. Another person asked for a Peron button and someone else said, 'Thank you for bringing a breath of light [sic] into this convention.'"

Even as the media surrounded Peron asking questions, the security people kept trying to move the group out. "The Burlingame Police were called," Justmann said. "They were going to arrest Dennis because we weren't allowed to demonstrate in the entryway — we were being singled out even though other delegates were there with placards and signs."

Justmann said the police then were going to arrest him because "we weren't going to leave until we had made our point — which we did — and then we voluntarily left."

Peron sees himself as a "thorn in the side" of the Republican Party, but also as a candidate who is in tune with voters, citing his successful statewide campaign for Prop. 215, the medical marijuana bill.

In an interview with Sacramento's *Capitol Weekly* newspaper, Peron said of Lungren and the field of Democrats running for governor, "I don't think much of any of them, they're all shallow, empty, opportunists and hacks." He refers to Lungren as the "second coming of Richard Nixon." Peron says his intent is to "redefine" the Republican Party which, he says, has been taken over by extremists.

He calls himself a "liberal Republican in the tradition of William Weld — I believe in small government and individual rights" he says. Peron has been arrested 15 times for sale or possession of marijuana and has served a total of two years in jail. The Bronx native and Vietnam veteran lost his lover, Jonathan West, to AIDS in 1990; he says it was Jonathan's illness and the relief that marijuana gave him that sparked Peron's successful campaign to have medical use of marijuana legalized. ▼

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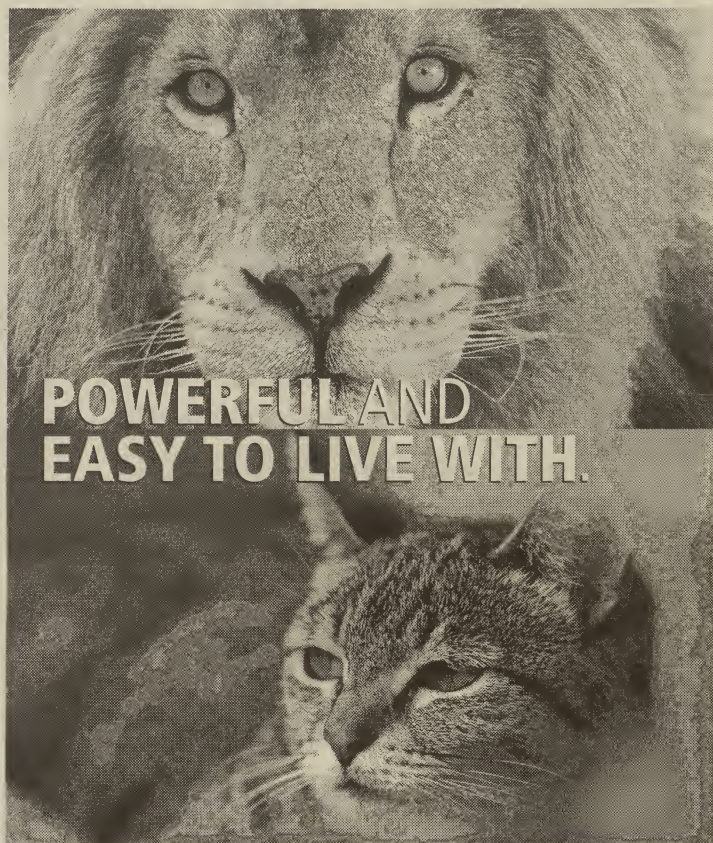
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WHAT IS VIRACEPT AND HOW DOES IT WORK?

VIRACEPT is used in the treatment of people with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection. Infection with HIV leads to the destruction of CD4 T cells, which are important to the immune system. After a large number of CD4 cells have been destroyed, the infected person develops acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS).

VIRACEPT works by blocking HIV protease (a protein-cutting enzyme), which is required for HIV to multiply. VIRACEPT has been shown to significantly reduce the amount of HIV in the blood. You should be aware, however, that the effect of VIRACEPT on HIV in the blood has not been correlated with long-term health benefits. Patients who took VIRACEPT also had significant increases in their CD4 cell count.

VIRACEPT is usually taken together with other antiretroviral drugs such as Retrovir® (zidovudine, AZT), Efavir® (lamivudine, 3TC), or Zeret® (stavudine, d4T). Taking VIRACEPT in combination with other antiretroviral drugs reduces the amount of HIV in the body (viral load) and raises CD4 counts.

VIRACEPT may be taken by adults, adolescents, and children 2 years of age or older. Studies in infants younger than 2 years of age are now taking place.

DOES VIRACEPT CURE HIV OR AIDS?

VIRACEPT is not a cure for HIV infection or AIDS. The long-term effects of VIRACEPT are not known at this time. People taking VIRACEPT may still develop opportunistic infections or other conditions associated with HIV infection. Some of these conditions are pneumonia, herpes virus infections, *Mycobacterium avium* complex (MAC) infections, and Kaposi's sarcoma.

It is not known whether VIRACEPT will help you live longer or reduce the number of infections or other illnesses that may occur.

There is no proof that VIRACEPT can reduce the risk of transmitting HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

WHO SHOULD OR SHOULD NOT TAKE VIRACEPT?

Together with your doctor, you need to decide whether VIRACEPT is appropriate for you. In making your decision, the following should be considered:

Allergies: If you have had a serious allergic reaction to VIRACEPT, you must not take VIRACEPT. You should also inform your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist of any known allergies to substances such as other medicines, foods, preservatives, or dyes.

If you are pregnant: The effects of VIRACEPT on pregnant women or their unborn babies are not known. If you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant, you should tell your doctor before taking VIRACEPT.

If you are breast-feeding: You should discuss with your doctor the best way to feed your baby. You should be aware that if your baby does not already have HIV, there is a chance that it can be transmitted through breast-feeding. **Women should not breast-feed if they have HIV.**

Children: VIRACEPT is available for the treatment of children 2 through 13 years of age with HIV. There is a powder form of VIRACEPT that can be mixed with milk, baby formula, or foods like pudding. Instructions on how to take VIRACEPT powder can be found in a later section that discusses how VIRACEPT Oral Powder should be prepared.

If you have liver disease: VIRACEPT has not been studied in people with liver disease. If you have liver disease, you should tell your doctor before taking VIRACEPT.

Other medical problems: Certain medical problems may affect the use of VIRACEPT. Some people taking protease inhibitors have developed new or more serious diabetes or high blood sugar. Some people with hemophilia have had increased bleeding. It is not known whether the protease inhibitors caused these problems. Be sure to tell your doctor if you have hemophilia types A and B, diabetes mellitus, or an increase in thirst and/or frequent urination.

CAN VIRACEPT BE TAKEN WITH OTHER MEDICATIONS?

VIRACEPT may interact with other drugs, including those you take without a prescription. You must discuss with your doctor any drugs that you are taking or are planning to take before you take VIRACEPT.

Drugs you should not take with VIRACEPT:

- Seldane® (terfenadine, for allergies)
- Hismanal® (astemizole, for allergies)
- Propulsid® (cisapride, for heartburn)
- Cordarone® (amiodarone, for irregular heartbeat)
- Quinidine (for irregular heartbeat), also known as Quinaglut® Cardioquin® Quinidex® and others
- Ergot derivatives (Cafegot® and others, for migraine headache)
- Halcion® (triazolam)
- Versed® (midazolam)

Taking the above drugs with VIRACEPT may cause serious and/or life-threatening adverse events.

- Rifampin (for tuberculosis), also known as Rimactane®, Rifadin®, Rifater®, or Rifamate®

This drug reduces blood levels of VIRACEPT.

Dose reduction required if you take VIRACEPT with:

Mycobutin® (rifabutin, for MAC); you will need to take a lower dose of Mycobutin.

A change of therapy should be considered if you are taking VIRACEPT with:

- Phenobarbital
- Phenytoin (Dilantin® and others)
- Carbamazepine (Tegretol® and others)

These agents may reduce the amount of VIRACEPT in your blood and make it less effective.

- Oral contraceptives ("the pill")

If you are taking the pill to prevent pregnancy, you should use a different type of contraception since VIRACEPT may reduce the effectiveness of oral contraceptives.

HOW SHOULD VIRACEPT BE TAKEN WITH OTHER ANTI-HIV DRUGS?

Taking VIRACEPT together with other anti-HIV drugs increases their ability to fight the virus. It also reduces the opportunity for resistant viruses to grow. Based on your history of taking other anti-HIV medicine, your doctor will direct you on how to take VIRACEPT and other anti-HIV medicines. These drugs should be taken in a certain order or at specific times. This will depend on how many times a day each medicine should be taken. It will also depend on whether it should be taken with or without food.

Nucleoside analogues: No drug interaction problems were seen when VIRACEPT was given with:

- Retrovir (zidovudine, AZT)
- Efavir (lamivudine, 3TC)
- Zeret (stavudine, d4T)
- Videx® (didanosine, ddI)

If you are taking both Videx (ddI) and VIRACEPT: Videx should be taken without food, on an empty stomach. Therefore, you should take VIRACEPT with food one hour after or more than two hours before you take Videx.

Nonnucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NNRTIs):

When VIRACEPT is taken together with:

- Viramune® (nevirapine)

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- Other NNRTIs

VIRACEPT has not been studied with other NNRTIs.

Other protease inhibitors:

When VIRACEPT is taken together with:

- Crixivan® (indinavir)

The amount of both drugs in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.

- Norvir™ (ritonavir)

The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.

- Invirase® (saquinavir)

The amount of saquinavir in your blood may be increased. If used in combination with saquinavir hard gelatin capsules at 600 mg three times daily, no dose adjustments are needed. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.

WHAT ARE THE SIDE EFFECTS OF VIRACEPT?

Like all medicines, VIRACEPT can cause side effects. Most of the side effects experienced with VIRACEPT have been mild to moderate. Diarrhea is the most common side effect in people taking VIRACEPT, and most adult patients had at least mild diarrhea at some point during treatment. In clinical studies, about 20% of patients receiving VIRACEPT 750 mg (three tablets) three times daily had four or more loose stools a day. In most cases, diarrhea can be controlled using antidiarrheal medicines, such as Imodium® A-D (loperamide) and others, which are available without a prescription.

Other side effects that occurred in 2% or more of patients receiving VIRACEPT include abdominal pain, asthenia, nausea, flatulence, and rash.

There were other side effects noted in clinical studies that occurred in less than 2% of patients receiving VIRACEPT. However, these side effects may have been due to other drugs that patients were taking or to the illness itself. Except for diarrhea, there were not many differences in side effects in patients who took VIRACEPT along with other drugs compared with those who took only the other drugs. For a complete list of side effects, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.

HOW SHOULD I TAKE VIRACEPT?

VIRACEPT is available only with your doctor's prescription. The light blue VIRACEPT Tablets should be taken three times a day. VIRACEPT should always be taken with a meal or a light snack. You do not have to take VIRACEPT exactly every 8 hours. Instead, you can take it at normal times when you are eating.

Take VIRACEPT exactly as directed by your doctor. Do not increase or decrease any dose or the number of doses per day. Also, take this medicine for the exact period of time that your doctor has instructed. **Do not stop taking VIRACEPT without first consulting with your doctor, even if you are feeling better.**

Only take medicine that has been prescribed specifically for you. Do not give VIRACEPT to others or take medicine prescribed for someone else.

The dosing of VIRACEPT may be different for you than for other patients. **Follow the directions from your doctor, exactly as written on the label.** The amount of VIRACEPT in the blood should remain somewhat consistent over time. Missing doses will cause the concentration of VIRACEPT to decrease; therefore, you should not miss any doses. However, if you miss a dose, you should take the dose as soon as possible and then take your next scheduled dose and future doses as originally scheduled.

Dosing in adults (including children 14 years of age and older)

The recommended adult dose of VIRACEPT is 750 mg (three tablets) taken three times a day. Each dose should be taken with a meal or light snack.

Dosing in children 2 through 13 years of age

The VIRACEPT dose in children depends on their weight. The recommended dose is 20 to 30 mg/kg (or 9 to 14 mg/pound) per dose, taken three times daily with a meal or light snack. This can be administered either in tablet form or, in children unable to take tablets, as VIRACEPT Oral Powder.

Dose instructions will be provided by the child's doctor. The dose will be given three times daily using the measuring scoop provided, a measuring teaspoon, or one or more tablets depending on the weight and age of the child. The amount of oral powder or tablets to be given to a child is described in the chart below.

Pediatric Dose to Be Administered Three Times Daily

Body Weight		Number of Level Scoops*	Number of Level Teaspoons†	Number of Tablets		
Kg	Lb					
7	to < 8.5	15.5	to <18.5	4	1	-
8.5	to <10.5	18.5	to <23	5	1¼	-
10.5	to <12	23	to <26.5	6	1½	-
12	to <14	26.5	to <31	7	1¾	-
14	to <16	31	to <35	8	2	-
16	to <18	35	to <39.5	9	2¼	-
18	to <23	39.5	to <50.5	10	2½	2
	≥23	≥50.5		15	3¾	3

In measuring oral powder, the scoop or teaspoon should be level.

* 1 level scoop contains 50 mg of VIRACEPT. Use only the scoop provided with your VIRACEPT bottle.

† 1 level teaspoon contains 200 mg of VIRACEPT. Note: A measuring teaspoon used for dispensing medication should be used for measuring VIRACEPT Oral Powder. Ask your pharmacist to make sure you have a medication dispensing teaspoon.

How should VIRACEPT Oral Powder be prepared?

The oral powder may be mixed with a small amount of water, milk, formula, soy formula, soy milk, dietary supplements, or dairy foods such as pudding or ice cream. Once mixed, the entire amount must be taken to obtain the full dose.

Do not mix the powder with any acidic food or juice, such as orange or grapefruit juice, apple juice, or apple sauce, because this may create a bitter taste.

Once the powder is mixed, it may be stored at room temperature or refrigerated for up to 6 hours. Do not heat the mixed dose once it has been prepared.

Do not add water to bottles of oral powder.

VIRACEPT powder is supplied with a scoop for measuring. For help in determining the exact dose of powder for your child, please ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.

VIRACEPT Oral Powder contains aspartame, a low-calorie sweetener, and therefore should not be taken by children with phenylketonuria (PKU).

HOW SHOULD VIRACEPT BE STORED?

Keep VIRACEPT and all other medicines out of the reach of children. Keep bottle closed and store at room temperature (between 59°F and 86°F) away from sources of moisture such as a sink or other damp place. Heat and moisture may reduce the effectiveness of VIRACEPT.

Do not keep medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need. Be sure that if you throw any medicine away, it is out of the reach of children.

Discuss all questions about your health with your doctor. If you have questions about VIRACEPT or any other medication you are taking, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist. You can also call 1.888.VIRACEPT (1.888.847.2237) toll free.

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Issued 11/13/97

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Shedding light on Glaxo's 1592: no panacea

by Matthew Sharp
ACT UP/Golden Gate
Writers Pool

It's a sure bet that Glaxo Wellcome's antiviral drug 1592 (abacavir) is another important option for people with AIDS, but whether it's the remedy activists desperately demanded months ago with zaps, civil disobedience, and boycotts is another question.

New data from abacavir is becoming available as researchers, clinicians, and patients are gaining experience with the drug. Some of the information is positive and some negative. Abacavir is appearing to be just another nucleoside analog sharing common resistance patterns and toxicities with its cousins, AZT, ddI, d4T, and 3TC. Activists, disturbed and frustrated over the latest data, want to inform people with AIDS about the problems with abacavir.

The 5th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections in Chicago highlighted several 1592 studies, which showed significant viral load decreases. However, other information coming from the expanded access program for people who have taken the arsenal of AIDS drugs is bringing disappointing efficacy information. And most seriously, without warning, abacavir has caused serious life-threatening hypersensitivity reactions, which has led to three deaths.

The good news:

After 16 weeks of follow-up, most patients in a John Mellors (University of Pittsburgh) study had a 1.8 to 2.4 log decline in viral load. All of the participants had not used antiretrovirals and had a minimum of 500 CD4 cells with a baseline of less than 5,000 viral RNA. After 16 weeks on one of five protease inhibitors in combination with abacavir, up to 85 percent of people in the study had more than 400 copies of HIV and 70 percent of those patients had more than 50 viral load. According to this study, abacavir with a protease inhibitor seems to be quite potent combination in patients not previously treated with HIV drugs.

Now the bad news:

Though there was a good antiviral response in the Mellors study, four of the 78 patients (approximately five percent) developed an acute hypersensitivity reaction to the drug. This means that several people developed a mild fever, malaise, and other symptoms. Then, four people who went back on the drug developed a life-threatening reaction that sent them to intensive care to be resuscitated. One person died in this study due to the hypersensitivity.

This hypersensitivity is uncommon in AIDS drugs. Drugs to prevent PCP such as septrin (bactrim) and non-nucleoside drugs such as nevirapine and delavirdine have caused reactions, but nothing as severe as to cause ICU visits and death. We may be seeing more of these toxic reactions as more drugs are available and being combined. The severity of this situation has forced people with AIDS to rethink early access to new drugs.

Further bad news is that the drug may have little or no effect in people who have been on other

nucleoside drugs such as Glaxo's AZT and 3TC. The patterns of mutations are similar to its cousins and are probably the reason it has little effect in experienced patients. Ben Cheng from Project Inform puts it this way, "If you only have resistance to AZT you may be okay, and if you have resistance only to 3TC you may be okay, but if you are resistant to two or more nucleosides, abacavir may not be as effective." This does not bode well for many patients who have used up the famous AZT/3TC cocktail and have been treated with all the protease inhibitors.

The 1592 experience poses a predicament to people with AIDS. When there are much more options available today, do we continue to risk drug reactions by having early access to ill-studied therapies? Do some of us have the luxury of waiting? Should tactics be modified to wait for new options until more people have been studied or do we continue to fight for mediocre drugs that the pharmaceutical industry can profit on?

Glaxo Wellcome is clearly trying to corner the HIV market with AZT, 3TC, and combivir (a combination of AZT and 3TC). Add to the mixture the Glaxo darling drug, abacavir. They even have their own protease inhibitor, amprenavir (141W94), that is being studied in combination with AZT, 3TC, and abacavir. They recently bought out Hoechst, which has several non-nucleoside drugs in development. Obviously, the company is planning to cover all the bases when it comes to HIV drug cocktails. So, one must question whether Glaxo is just trying to profit from their own drugs, or help find the best treatments for AIDS?

On the horizon

It is clear that many questions need to be answered before we throw in the towel on demanding early access. The desperation that caused the outcry over access to abacavir was real and activists responded appropriately. At the time people had used up the nucleoside generation of drugs and there was nothing new on the horizon except abacavir. Today, on the contrary, there are 12 HIV drugs approved, three in expanded access, and several more in the research pipeline; one might wonder how we can still demand early access in light of this bleak information about abacavir but, given the complexity and reality of this disease, there will still be people who need drug options. ACT UP/Golden Gate still supports access to any drug a patient needs to stay ahead of progression and death. Ultimately, it should be left up to the patient and their physician.

Hank Wilson, a longtime AIDS activist and member of ACT UP/Golden Gate, was losing the battle with HIV a year ago. He had tried all the anti-HIV drugs and had 30 CD4 cells with a viral load of 590,000. "I couldn't articulate what I wanted to say and I was hospitalized with cryptococcal meningitis," Wilson now recalls. He became the first patient with AIDS to rethink early access to new drugs. He was hospitalized at General Hospital. "After 12 weeks on

placebo I was switched to 1592 and added delavirdine and zalcitabine," he says. "Then, in just one week I had the capacity to think clearly again. My CD4 count went to 350 and my viral load dropped to 7,000. Now, after one year I have no detectable virus and I feel like the old Hank."

Wilson's experience with abacavir is exactly why activists still believe early access can be life saving. Abacavir has been available for people below 50 CD4 counts for months now in a limited expanded access program. A wider program that would match programs offered by the new

Gilead drug, Preveon (adefovir) and DuPont Merck's Sustiva (DMP-266) has been delayed by bureaucratic regulations and by Glaxo incompetence, but should be announced soon.

Wilson muses, "When I visit friends in the dementia ward I wish they could experience the response I had with 1592. People with dementia shouldn't be written off. New drugs like 1592 can give people the capacity to turn around." Clearly, there are many people who can benefit from early access to AIDS drugs. How best to balance the need with safety concerns in early access will continue to be a struggle in the coming years. ▽



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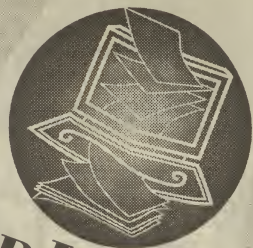
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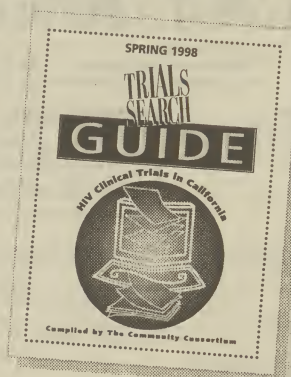


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OBITUARY POLICY

Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization – and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste.

If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. They must be submitted within a year of the death.

Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ad obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.

Anthony J. Alvarez

Nov. 7, 1963 – Feb. 14, 1998

On Valentine's Day morning, Tony passed away in his parents' arms at their home in Sunnyvale. He will be deeply missed by his loving and devoted family, as well as those friends and loved ones whose lives he touched.

Tony was a natural salesman, full of charm and wit. We will always remember his dazzling smile, gentle heart and loving nature. Our lives are richer and warmer for having known him.

In lieu of flowers, please make any donations in his memory to the Pet Orphans Fund at 2118 Wilshire Blvd., Box 792, Santa Monica, CA 90403.

Kenneth James Arnold

February 14, 1998

Kenneth James Arnold, attorney, gay rights pioneer and judicial biographer, died peacefully in his sleep the night of Feb. 14 at age 72. He died as a result of lung cancer complications.

One of the first out-of-the-closet attorneys in San Francisco, Kenneth was a founding member of the Society for Individual Rights (S.I.R.), the San Francisco

group that was one of the earliest gay rights groups in the nation. He served as editor of *Vector*, S.I.R.'s magazine, for several years.

As an attorney, Kenneth worked for the Supreme Court of California and Court of Appeal, First Appellate District for a number of years. At the time, he later recalled, San Quentin had a substantial number of prisoners convicted of so-called "gay crimes" like sodomy and fellatio. He was frequently called on for his insight into gay rights as the courts grappled with important decisions that established the rights which gays and lesbians take for granted today.

An extremely intelligent but sometimes abrasive man, Kenneth was admired by his friends for his grasp of California politics and law. His longtime companion, David Jerome Williams, predeceased him by about a year. No services were held. Both are buried in Richmond.

Mark A. Chapa

March 18, 1964 – Jan. 23, 1998



Mark Anthony Chapa died of meningitis and other complications on Jan. 23 at the Alexis Brothers Hospital in San Jose. He was 33.

Mark leaves behind a legacy of smiles and lots of friends. We will miss his social wit and love of life. He spent a great deal of his life in music and devoted his musical talents to the Silicon Valley Gay Men's Chorus (SVGMC). Mark not only sang in the chorus, he was also the costume and stage designer. They will sorely miss his talents.

In addition, Mark enjoyed traveling on ski and boating trips with SAGA. He was an avid roller skater and could be found at the Rolladium every Wednesday night for years. You could barely see him as he sped across the floor at lightning speed.

Mark is survived by his parents, Rita and Amanda Chapa; sisters, Mila Werceta and Lynn Elado; brothers, Robert and David Chapa; nieces, Dana and Lauren; and nephews, Damien and Nicholas. He also leaves behind numerous other family members and close friends, including Roy, Bob and Scott.

Louis Christlieb

1954 – 1998

Louis passed away from liver complications on Jan. 5 at UCSF Hospital.



He leaves behind a large family and group of friends: twin sister, Louise; brother, Joseph; sister-in-law, Peggy; brothers; nieces; nephews; a wife and daughter in Indiana; his loving companion, Johnnie Isla; Johnnie's loving family; and mentor, Ilene Macadam.

Louis was a loving character. He was involved in the Imperial Court system, and reigned as Mr. Cowboy 1995-1996, as well as holding the title of Crown Prince of the Duke Shawn and Duchess Patti's Court of 1997-1998. Louis and Johnnie were also involved with the Mr. Golden Gate title. Johnnie became Mr. Golden Gate 1997-1998.

A man of many talents, Louis had a real flair for decorating and worked with many designers on various functions in the Bay Area. Some may have thought him a controversial figure, but in the end, he was just as vulnerable as the rest of us.

Donations may be made in Louis' name to Project Open Hand.

Kevin G. Toney

January 21, 1998



Kevin G. Toney, 45, of San Francisco, died Wednesday, Jan. 21, of complications from AIDS. He was a long-term survivor who took part in national research and California studies.

A native of Tonawanda, N.Y., and 1974 graduate in computer programming from New York College at Buffalo, he began his professional career in Memphis, moving to San Francisco in 1990 from Los Angeles to work for Visa. He maintained a lifelong interest in music and was co-founder of the LA recording company, Nightwave.

Kevin is survived in San Francisco by his loving partner, Glenn, and in New York and elsewhere by his father, George; sisters, Karen and Kathy; brother, David; and many dear friends. Kevin will rest forever now in our close company. A birthday remembrance and dedication will be celebrated on July 26, 1998, in northern New York, with arrangements by Friends Memorial, Box 104, Glens Falls, N.Y. 12801. Contributions are welcome.

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POLITICAL CALENDAR

Meetings of interest to the community throughout March, listed in order of each group's first event this month:

SF Youth Commission
March 5, 19; 5-7 p.m.
City Hall, Room 207
401 Van Ness Avenue
(Meets 1st and 3rd Thursday)
Info: (415) 554-6446

Board of Supervisors
March 9, 16, 23, 30; 2 p.m.
City Hall, 4th floor
401 Van Ness Avenue
(Meets every Monday)
For committee meetings,
call (415) 554-5184

**Alice B. Toklas
Democratic Club**
March 9; 7-9 p.m.
Piaf's, 1686 Market Street
(Meets 2nd Monday)
Info: (415) 522-3809

Out on the Island
March 9; 7 p.m.
City of Alameda's gay
community action group
(Meets 2nd Monday)
Location/info. (510) 337-1300

ACT UP/Golden Gate
March 10, 17, 24, 31; 7:30 p.m.
592 Castro Street
(Meets every Tuesday)
Info: (415) 252-9200

**Oakland HIV Health Services
Planning Council**
(Alameda, Contra Costa
counties)
March 11; 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
(Meets 2nd Wednesday)
Council's PWA Committee
March 13; 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
(Meets 2nd Friday)

Location/info. (510) 741-1856

**HIV Prevention
Planning Council**
March 12, 26; 3-6 p.m.
Unitarian Church,
1187 Franklin at Geary
For committee meetings,
call (415) 554-9000

**Queer Latino Political
Action Committee (QL PAC)**
March 12; 6:30 p.m.
Women's Building
3543 18th Street
(Meets 2nd Thursday)
Info: (415) 648-3702

**Ambiente Latino
Democratic Club**
March 14; 4 p.m.
(Meets 2nd Saturday)
Location/info. (415) 239-2221

**Mayor's HIV Health
Services Planning Council**
March 16, 23; 4:30 p.m.
SF AIDS Office
25 Van Ness Avenue
For committee meetings,
call (415) 554-9136

**L/G/B/T Pride
Celebration Committee**
March 16; 7:30 p.m.
1390 Market Street,
Suite 1225
Fox Plaza office building
Info: (415) 864-3733

SF Health Commission
March 17; 3 p.m.
SF Department of Public Health
101 Grove Street, Room 300
(Meets 1st and 3rd Tuesday)
Info: (415) 554-2666

**LGBT Advisory Committee
SF Human Rights Commission**
March 17; 5:30 p.m.

25 Van Ness Avenue
(Meets 3rd Tuesday)
Info: (415) 252-2500

**Postexposure Prophylaxis
(PEP)**
Community Advisory Board
March 18; 5:30 p.m.
SF AIDS Office,
25 Van Ness Avenue, 3rd floor
(Meets 3rd Wednesday)
Info: (415) 554-9000

**L/G/B/T Community
Center Project Board**
March 18; 7 p.m.
City Hall, 3rd floor
401 Van Ness Avenue
Info. (415) 241-1526

**Lesbians and Gays
of African Descent for
Democratic Action (LGADDA)**
March 19; 7 p.m.
507-B Divisadero
(Meets 3rd Thursday)
Info: (415) 273-1108

Harvey Milk Democratic Club
February 24; 7-9 p.m.
Cannabis Cultivators Club
1444 Market Street
(Meets 4th Tuesday)
Info: (415) 751-5364

**Call for information
about these March
meetings:**

Log Cabin Republican Club
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**CUSP: Community United
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Sonoma AEF

◀ page 3

Sonoma County can work with AEF to restore local grants.

Sonoma County AIDS Commission President Pat Lancaster said his group would be willing to review its allocations for 1998 to try to find some extra money for the AEF grants.

"The commission has dedicated itself to finding a solution to this," he said. Cleve Jones said four or five gay business owners on the Russian River had committed to fundraising, but were unable to attend because of a funeral. Several people at the meeting also

signed up to form a committee to raise money in Sonoma County for AEF.

Turner and other AEF officials attending the Sebastopol meeting said they were looking forward to working with Sonoma County residents to reinstate the grants.

"I want to see these 220 people get served," said Turner, "and we're here to see that happen."

An initial meeting of the fundraising committee is scheduled for 6 p.m., this Monday, March 9. It will be held in west Sonoma County, although the exact location had not yet been determined by press time. Call Betsy Van Dyke at (707) 869-0851 for further information. ▼

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RESEARCH STUDY OF HIV-NEGATIVE GAY MEN

I am completing my doctoral dissertation in clinical psychology at the Pacific Graduate School of Psychology in Palo Alto, California. Volunteers are needed to complete a 60 to 90 minute questionnaire. The questionnaire examines your feelings about yourself and the world, your sexual activities, and your experiences of personal loss(es) of partners, friends, and acquaintances to AIDS. Volunteers must be HIV-negative, reside within the San Francisco Bay Area, and be between the ages of 18 to 44.

If you would be interested in participating in this study, please contact Mark Jurek at 1-800-331-1010. Upon calling, you will be asked to leave your name, address and home telephone number. Questionnaires will be mailed to all participants.

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597-9169

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Minton fresh

by Jim Provenzano

Badminton is kind of an underdog sport. People discount its difficulty, possibly because the ball has wings ... you know, those little feathery parts. In fact, it isn't so much a ball at all as a ball substitute — ball lite, if you will — and is even called a "bird," which seems perhaps not as butch as sports with real balls on display, all of them faster, harder, and bigger. Insert stereotypical gay comparisons here.

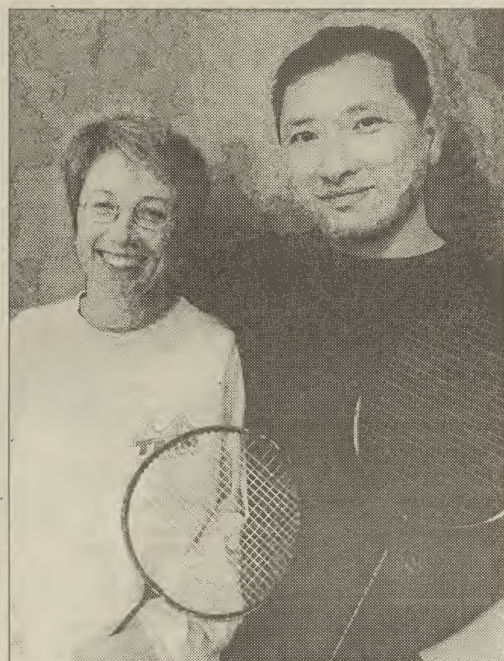
Peter Chiu is more than a little aware of the slights that a sport like badminton sometimes suffers. Even Gay Games officials in Amsterdam, it seems, treat it lightly; Chiu is having problems confirming that badminton events are even taking place there. However, he gamely says, "I am going. I sent in my registration, but after e-mailing and faxing for a response, I don't know why it's taking them so long."

"Them" being the Dutch organizers of Gay Games, who are no doubt focusing on "bigger" sports that will include a paying audience: body building, swimming, and diving. Fellow players heading for Amsterdam are not exactly forming a team, per se. "Badminton is more like an individual sport," he says, "so everyone's gonna meet there."

Chiu started by playing in the recreational level at Berkeley, and has continued with the sport. He admits badminton isn't a major sport in the Bay Area, and says it's tough to form a real team with only four or five folks going, but "we try to get together once a week."

Some other players get together at the Central YMCA on Golden Gate, "but you have to be a member to play there." So, in addition, they try to get together, practicing on their own and at other tournaments. "We just play pickup games in mixed doubles, just to get the practice."

Dianne Harris, Chiu's mixed doubles partner, played badminton in high school and at Riverside City College. She jokes about the difficulties of playing an underdog sport — "I call it the Secret Badminton Society" — but says more seriously that badminton isn't the lightweight sport



Bye, bye birdie: Team SF badminton buddies Diane Harris and Peter Chiu are winging it to Gay Games V in Amsterdam.

some people think it is. "You can get hit with a bird that's going really fast," she points out, speaking from experience. Fortunately, she

was hit in the teeth; although that sounds pretty unfortunate, it did prevent her from getting a swollen lip. "I play the net, so it's usually coming right at me."

Your basic court-type injuries also include knee problems, since like tennis and volleyball, badminton forces players to assume

some a lot of stances where poor alignment can lead to knee injury. "Part of training is definitely how to place your feet and get where you need to be without stumbling around."

And how is the workout? "It's a very fast-paced competitive sport," she says. "The rest of the time I bike." She also rollerblades and goes to the gym, and recently trained to do a hundred-mile bike ride in Manteca near Modesto. Although she says, "I'd much rather get my exercise from badminton,"

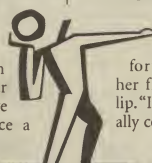
she acknowledges that "unless you're really plugged into the network it's hard to find people to play." She also mentions the Central YMCA's matches on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday afternoons, where "there's a pretty consistent 15 people each night," but admits "the only choice, sometimes, is to take a City College course."

Although Harris doubles-partners with Chiu, she says "I'd still like to play women's doubles, if I can find a partner." Singles, she freely admits, is "a lot harder work!"

After Gay Games, where is she planning to take her racket? "I'm planning to stay an extra week and perhaps go to Spain."

Perhaps she may find that partner after the Games! ▼

Badminton takes place at Eureka Valley Recreation Center, 18th and Collingwood streets, 7-9:30 every Friday night. For more info on playing badminton, call Peter Chiu at (415) 225-1862.



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Report: lesbians may have better hearing

by Mara Bovsun, OPI

Texas researchers have found that lesbians may have slightly more sensitive hearing than heterosexual women.

The University of Texas in Austin scientists say they believe their study provides the first evidence of a physiological basis for same-sex orientation in women.

They suggest that exposure to extra male hormones in the womb may be responsible for "masculinization" of the ear structure along with the brain centers that control sexual desire.

In a study of about 240 young men and women, scientists found that compared to heterosexual women, the inner ears of lesbians produced fainter echoes, a natural response to the sound of clicking.

Neuroscientist Dennis McFadden

den says the inner ear echoes made by lesbians were "intermediate," halfway between those of heterosexual women and men.

Scientists have known from earlier research that women have louder inner ear echoes and hear slightly better than men, he says.

McFadden says the implication of the finding is that the hearing system and parts of the brain that influence sexual preference were somehow "masculinized" before birth.

A possible explanation, he says, is that lesbians are exposed to high levels of male hormones in the womb.

A similar hearing difference seen in girls born in sets of male-female twins, he says, in which the girls may get a surge of androgens from their brothers. McFadden points out, however, that there is no evidence that girls from these

twin sets are more likely to prefer women.

The research is reported in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

Psychologist Michael Bailey calls the study surprising, and says the "data seem to be pretty persuasive."

Bailey, an associate professor at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, also says the idea that it is caused by androgen exposure "seems quite plausible."

But, he points out that the study will have to be repeated before scientists can make a firm connection between inner ear structure and women's preference in sexual partners.

Bailey, who has conducted studies on the genetics of homosexuality, estimates that about one percent of women are lesbian or bisexual. ▼

HEALTH RESOURCES

COMMUNITY HEALTH LISTINGS

Send health resource listings to:

Eric M. Rose
Community Health
Bay Area Reporter
395 Ninth Street
San Francisco, CA 94103

ACT UP/Golden Gate

Self-empowerment for AIDS treatment options. Get! mgs. Tues, 7:30pm; treatment issues every other Thurs, 7:30pm. 592 Castro. 252-9200.

ADD Support Group

Informal support group for gays and lesbians with Attention Deficit Disorder. Call Chuck, 282-7983.

AIDS Benefits Counselors

Professional review and counseling about benefits for people with AIDS/HIV+. Free. For intake scheduling, screening, referral, call 558-9845.

AIDS Bereavement Group

For those who have lost their partner to AIDS. Thursdays, 6-7:30pm. Registration and info: 750-6800 x21680.

AIDS Memorial Grove

Monthly workshops: weeding, clearing, replanting at Bowling Green Dr. and Middle Drive East, Golden Gate Park. Info: 750-8340.

AIDS Project of the East Bay

HIV education & prevention programs, case management, emotional & practical support for people in Alameda Co. 651 20th St., Oakland. (510) 834-8181.

AIDS Support Group

2+ years since diagnosis. No charge. (fees paid by Most Holy Redeemer AIDS Resource Group. Thursdays, 1pm. Call Kay Winston for intake: 552-7517.

Alternative Family Project

"We Are Family," on-going support group for gay men. Tues, & Thurs, 7pm. Call for no-fee intake. 436-9000.

Asians & Leather

Support group for gay Asian men who identify with leather. Info c/o Pacific Friends, PO Box 641008, or e-mail lchoi415@aol.com

Asians & Pacific Islanders with HIV

Weekly support group, activities, retreats, treatment info. API Wellness Center, 292-3400 x336.

Bay Positives

Provides recreational and emotional support for people up to 26 years old living with HIV. Ongoing support groups meet weekly. 487-1616.

Bereavement Groups

For family, friends and partners who have lost a loved one to AIDS. Visiting Nurses and Hospice of SF. 750-4404.

Buddhist AIDS Project

Provides info on Buddhist resources, events, and HIV alternative health services. Call 522-7473.

Catholic Charities

Residential and direct HIV services include Guerrero House, Peter Claver Community, more. 814 Mission. 281-1200.

Center for Special Problems

Groups for people with HIV: drop-in for women, women's therapy group, co-ed drop-in and psycho educational group. 1700 Jackson. Call for info: 292-1500.

Coming out support group for women

Meets Weds, 7:30-9pm at New Leaf, 1853 Market. All women questioning their sexuality welcome. Info: Lynne, 626-7000.

Coming out support group for men

Meets Weds, 6-7:30pm at New Leaf, 1853 Market St. Men of all ages welcome. Facilitated by Kirk Hinman, Ph.D. Info: 626-7000.

Community United Against Violence

Begins training Volunteer Counselors on their 24-hour crisis line. Call Nhu at 777-5500.

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav

Gay and lesbian Jewish synagogue. Services every Friday at 8:15pm. During synagogue renovations, they are located at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, 3281 16th Street. 861-6992.

Continuum HIV Day Services

An adult day health care facility for people with disabling HIV disease, located in the Tenderloin. Medical services, counseling, therapy, meals, activities. 241-5500.

Crystal Meth Anonymous

Meetings every: Wed, 8pm at 18th St. Services Mtg. Place (15th & Market); Sat, 9pm, and Sun, 6pm at 529 Clayton. Hotline: 267-5933.

Davies Med. Center

Free classes for HIV+ people in needlepoint (Tues, Wed.), exercise (Tues., Thurs.), stress reduction (Mon.). Castro at Duross. Info: 565-6369.

Diabetics

Support group for gay, lesbian and bisexual Type I and Type II diabetics in SF and the Bay Area. Info: (510) 865-2933.

Dolores Street Comm. Services

Seeks volunteers to help homeless in shelters. Contact David Rodriguez, 282-6209.

Drug Detox Program

Outpatient, medical drug detox, HIV acute care, counseling and education, free. Haight Ashbury Free Clinics, 529 Clayton. Call Hector, 565-1909.

Eden I & R

Information & referral for AIDS/affordable housing, HIV service providers in Alameda Co. (510) 573-2600.

Ellipse-Peninsula AIDS Services

Support groups, emotional & practical buddy program, food program and case management for PWAs in San Mateo Co. 572-9702.

Eureka Acupuncture & Yoga Center

Offers yoga, massage, low cost acupuncture. 301 Eureka. 648-2215.

Gay & Lesbian Asylum Project

Seeks volunteers to coordinate outreach to immigrants with asylum claims based on sexual orientation. Call Aaron Myers, 641-9276.

Gay Male Nudists

Puttick dinners monthly, after-hours parties, movie nights. Box 14175, SF 94114. 974-9446.

Gay Men's Meditation Group

Yoga philosophy, silent meditation, discussion of integrating sexuality with spirituality, free. Sundays, 4pm. Call 431-7575.

G40+ Club

A social group for gay/bi men 40 and over, meets 1st & 3rd Sundays every month, 2pm. Call 552-1997.

Health Support Services

For PWAs and their caregivers, Wednesdays 6-9pm, Marin Treatment Center, 1466 Lincoln Ave., San Rafael. Registration: 457-3755.

Hepatitis B Testing

And vaccinations for young (15-23) gay and bisexual men, free. Berkeley Free Clinic, 2339 Durant Ave., Berkeley. Sun, 5-7pm. (510) 644-0425.

Hepatitis C Helpline

Peer support for persons afflicted with Hep C. Call 834-4100.

HIV Advocacy Network

Grassroots organizing project of SF AIDS Foundation: phone/fax tree action alerts, government lobbying, HIV Policy Watch newsletter. 487-3034.

HIV/AIDS Risk Reduction Program

Behavior change support group for gay & bi men, focus on speed injection & unsafe sex behaviors. Free. Haight-Ashbury Free Clinic, 1696 Haight. Call Bill or Bonnie, 565-1927.

HIV/AIDS Services at New Leaf

Ongoing support groups, individual and couples counseling, drop-in groups every week. Issues for HIV- men, men with AIDS, partners and survivors. For information/intake, call Jill, 626-7000 x199. 1853 Market St.

HIVCare

Offers the latest clinical trials from community-based trial network, access to experimental treatments, free to participants. Info: Sher Vieira, 353-6215.

HIV Group

Weekly group for men with HIV/AIDS. Sixteen Wed. afternoons from 1-2:30pm. Free to SF residents. Center for Special Problems, 1700 Jackson. 292-1534.

HIV Testing

Free, anonymous testing, counseling and education. 1st Thursday and 3rd Friday of each month, 10pm-12:30am. 933 Harrison, upstairs.

Immune Enhancement Project

Treats persons with HIV-related illness using a program of traditional Chinese medicine and herbal supplements. Info: 252-8711.

Marin Co. STD/HIV Clinics

STD testing, treatment; HIV anonymous testing, treatment. Call 499-7804.

Martin De Porres House of Hospitality

Needs volunteers to work in soup kitchen, breakfast and lunch. 225 Potrero. 552-0240.

Medical Cannabis Delivery System

Serves homebound and ambulatory patients in SF and the East Bay. Fax, 255-7489. 2261 Market, #478, SF 94114. 436-9648.

Meditation Sessions

For caregivers, people with HIV, significant others, free. Tues, Thurs, Fri. at 10:15am. Hartford St. Zen Center, 57 Hartford. 863-2507.

Men Overcoming Sexual Assault

Operates crisis assault hotlines for men. Mon-Fri, 7-10pm. (510) 845-7273.

Mobilization Against AIDS

Seeks volunteers to assist in planning 15th International AIDS Candlelight Memorial. Call 863-4676.

Molested Boys:

"Wounded Men, Recovery from Sexual Abuse" free audiotape. Call 552-4270.

Multiple Loss Bereavement Group

For those experiencing multiple losses of friends or loved ones to AIDS. Tuesdays, 6-7:30pm. Registration and info: 750-6800 x21680.

Native American AIDS Project

Support, resources and advocacy for Native Americans/Alaskan Natives and their families affected by HIV. 1540 Market St., Suite 425. Info/intake: 522-2460.

New Leaf

Provides substance abuse, mental health, HIV and senior services for les, gay, bi, and trans community. Info/intake: 626-7000.

OUTline

Free HIV info and support using Windows or Macintosh graphic interface. Info: 554-0555 or info@out.org

Pacific Center

Counseling services for queer youth & adults, sliding scale. 2712 Telegraph, Berkeley. (510) 548-8283.

Pacific Center Walnut Creek

Support groups for queer and questioning people, counseling referrals and information. (510) 939-7711.

Paradigm

Models for Enhancing Life Near Death, serves the terminally ill, free 10-week support group in SF. Call for info: 522-9192.

The Positive Center

Free weekly workshops in acupuncture, nutrition, more for Marin CO. residents w/HIV. 535 San Anselmo Ave., San Anselmo. 456-8065.

Positive Gay Humanists

Internal/organization to end discrimination & violence, meets Tues, at 7:30pm. Info: 285-0606.

Positive Living for Us

Free educational seminar for recently-tested HIV+. Info: Alfredo, 356-8129.

Positive Resource

Provides work referrals to people with HIV/AIDS. To list a job opening or attend an employment opportunity orientation mtg call 928-1448.

Project HOPE

Offers HIV prevention peer counseling to gay, bisexual and transgender men of color. Call 356-8114.

Project Open Hand

Provides free prepared meals, groceries and nutrition counseling for people with symptomatic and disabling HIV disease. Call 1-800-551-6325 for intake information.

Psychic Horizons

Free introductory meditation class Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m. 2240 Geary Blvd. 346-7906.

PWA Long-Term Survivors

Support group for men: small, friendly, pro-active. Call Carol, 584-1708.

Q Action

Work with other queer boys to stop HIV transmission among young gay and bi men. Info: 431-2ACT.

Qi Gong for Health

\$1 per class. Mon, Wed, 5:30pm, 50 Oak St., 3rd fl. 255-0265.

Quan Yin Healing Arts Center

Acupuncture, Chinese herbal therapies, massage for those with HIV, Yoga and Chi Gong classes. Call for schedule. 1748 Market, 861-4964.

Question HIV

Support group, share stories, every Mon, 7pm. Call for location and info. 252-1381.

Radical Women

Business mtg, 2nd & 4th Thurs. of the month. 7pm. Valencia Hall, 523-A Valencia St. 864-1278.



Community Health

800-977-HEAL

Senior Central

Provides info, referral and assistance to gay and lesbian seniors, free and confidential services. 360 4th St. 777-3233.

Shanti Project's Latino Program

Specifically serves Latino men, women, adolescents and children infected with and affected by HIV. Provides help with emotional peer counseling and practical support. For more information, call 864-CARE.

Rafiki Services Project

Enhancing quality of life for African American people living with AIDS in SF. 346-5860.

re plen ish

Offers individual and group retreats for professional caregivers in the HIV community. Info: Kay, 864-5140 or write PO Box 410592, SF 94141.

Richard M. Cohen Residence

SF's first assisted living residence for people disabled by AIDS, needs volunteers (call 558-0503) and household donations (call Wayne April, 282-6209).

Richmond Area Multi-Services in SF

Offers low fee counseling/psychotherapy services to sexual minorities, people with HIV/AIDS. Support/therapy groups for family/loved ones of PWAs in English, Russian, Cantonese, Vietnamese. 668-5955.

Richmond Senior Central

Seeks volunteers in computer, PR, marketing, senior safety, other fields. Call 752-2815.

Sadhana Brothers

Gay/bi men's Hindu/Yogic fellowship, meets monthly for chanting, meditation, informal discussion. Call Ed, 647-4388.

SCA

Sexual Compulsive Anonymous meets Fri. at 6:30pm, 2128 15th St. 1-

STD Check-ups

Free testing site given by City Clinic, 2nd Thurs. of each month, 8:30-10:30pm. Blow Buddies, 933 Harrison. 863-4323.

St. Francis Senior Center

Invites seniors to weekly gatherings, Wed. 10am-2pm. St. Francis Lutheran Church, 152 Church. 621-2635.

Transenders in Transition

Alternative Family Project's on-going support group for transgendered and transsexual folk. Thurs., 7:30pm. 425 Divisadero, Suite 203B. 436-9000.

Transitions

Nonprofit consulting service: guidance, referrals and resources for the dying and their caregivers. Call David Cardenas, 664-6975.

Transcendental Meditation Center

Has scholarships for low income people with HIV. Call Paul Brown at 931-1621.

Transgender Support Group

Multiracial rap group, every first Monday of month, 6:30pm. Call Adela Holiday, Proyecto ContraSIDA Por Vida, 864-7278.

UCSF AIDS Health Project

Offers: (1) ongoing groups for persons diagnosed with KS; (2) Tues. night support group for women who are caregivers or family members of PWAs; (3) support group for HIV+ African-American heterosexual men. Info: 476-3902.

Under One Roof

The Shop for AIDS Relief at 2362 Market seeks volunteers to assist customers and help with catalogue sales. Call Ian at 252-9430.

Volunteer haircutters needed

For HIV patient services at Davies Med. Ctr. Once a month, 3-hr. shift on Mon. Call Barbara at 565-6374.

Women's Cancer Resource Center

Support, resource & advocacy group for Bay Area women with cancer, their friends, families. Provides individual peer counseling & drop-in support groups, educational programs, legal workshop & more. 3023 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. (510) 548-9272.

BAY AREA REPORTER CLASSIFIEDS

LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 220431

The following person(s) are doing business as, Poonponies. 11 Crestline Dr., #, SF, CA 94131. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name on 2-01-98. This business is conducted by an individual Signed Gay G. Schofield. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Feb. 3, 1998. FEB. 19, 26, MARCH, 05, 12, 1998

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 220664

The following person(s) are doing business as, International Gifts, 1177 California St., Suite # 902, SF, CA 94108. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name on N/A. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed Steve Conn. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Feb. 12, 1998. FEB. 19, 26, MARCH, 05, 12, 1998

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME NO. 181313.

The following person(s) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: The Picnic People DBA Ann Bennett & Associates. 1177 California St., Ste. B SF, CA 94108. The fictitious business name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on 6-19-95. Signed Pamela Koevers. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of San Francisco County in San Francisco County on the date of Feb. 9, 1998. FEB. 19, 26 MARCH 5, 12, 1998

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAMEFILE NO. 992910

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of Madeleine Isabel Smith for change of name. The application of Madeleine Isabel Smith has been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Madeleine Isabel Smith has filed an application proposing that her name be changed to Madeleine Isabel Putnam. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 at on the 31st of March, 1998 at 9:00 am, of said day to show why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the Bay

Area Reporter, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 17th day of Feb. 18.1998 Feb 26, Mar 5, 12, 19, 1998

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 220213

The following person(s) are doing business as My favorite Orchids 112 Coleridge St. SF, CA 94110. This business is conducted by an individual signed Michel John Rumanowski. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on 1-23-98. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Jan. 23, 1998 FEB 26, MAR, 5, 12, 19, 1998

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 220830

The following person(s) are doing business as Fumiki Tansu Warehouse 1000 Brannan St., SF, CA 94103. This business is conducted by an individual signed Fumiki Ale. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February, 20, 1998 FEB 26, MAR, 5, 12, 19, 1998

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 220755

The following person(s) are doing business as Research Matters 2599 Diamond St. SF, CA 94131. This business is conducted by an individual signed Gary L Rocchio. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on 2-18-98. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February, 18 1998 FEB 26 MAR, 5, 12, 19, 1998

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 221032

The following person(s) are doing business as Jim's Collectables and Gifts. 500 Wisconsin San Francisco CA 94107. This business is conducted by an individual signed James E. Nally. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on 3-01-98. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on March 02, 1998. MARCH, 5, 12, 19, 26, 1998

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 220909

The following person(s) are doing business as

as Recipes of Love. 120 Webster St., #4, SF., CA 94117. This business is conducted by a N/A signed Rod I. Nelson. The registrant commenced to transact business under the above-listed fictitious business name or names on Feb 24, 1998. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Feb., 24, 1998. MARCH, 5, 12, 19, 26, 1998

CHANGE OF NAMEFILE NO. 993025

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of Larry Brown. for change of name. The application of Larry Brown has for change of name having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Larry Brown has filed an application

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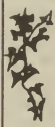
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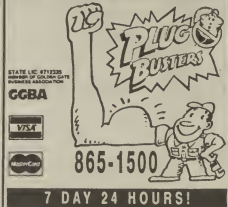
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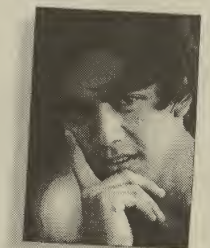
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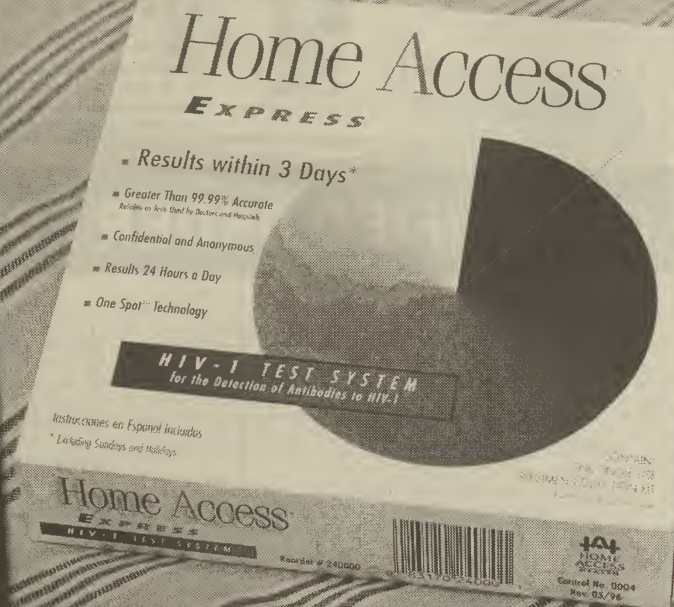
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Tickling the Ivories
Merchant Ivory film
series opens at the Castro.

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Love bites
Broomfield's 'Kurt and
Courtney' stalks its prey.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 28 • No. 10 • 5 March 1998

Less is less

at the Asian American Film Festival

by Gary Morris

Cutting back on the scale of the Asian American Film Festival, as happened this year, has its benefits, at least for critics: with fewer movies shown, it's easy to see more and get more of a feeling for what's happening out there, filmwise. On the other hand, for queer audiences clamoring for queer images, there's a slight sense of disappointment. Usually there's a wealth of such material; this year, only two bona fide gay features and one shorts program, and for once, the features are marginally less interesting than the shorts.

Filipino commercial cinema tends toward the floridly melodramatic, and Carlos Siguan-Reyna's *The Man in Her Life* doesn't deviate from the tradition. What makes the film different is that in addition to scheming aunts, vicious neighbors, operatic fight scenes, and over-the-top class conflicts, there are some surprisingly sweaty sex scenes between middle-class high school principal Ramon (Ricky Davao) and a married farmer named Carding (Alan Paule). Less surprising is the fact that Filipino authorities don't take kindly to extended images of two naked men grinding the night away: the 1997 film was banned in its country.

Poor Ramon is "that fairy" to the rude townspeople, who know about his affair with Carding, and are astounded when Ramon is married to the beautiful Selya (Rosanna Roces). Of course, it's the domineering aunt Piling (Eva Darren) who's behind the

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Wayland Quintero, Potri Ranka Manis, and Francisco Aliwalas in *Disoriented*.

Ellen doesn't live here anymore

by Victoria A. Brownworth

Ellen DeGeneres looked like the proverbial deer caught in the headlights on *Entertainment Tonight* (ET) last week as she discussed the possible (probable?) cancellation of America's queer sit-com *Ellen*. Though ABC has yet to confirm (or deny) whether the show will continue after the standard mid-season hiatus, TV pundits

are predicting cancellation.

I make no such predictions, but poor ratings, sponsor problems, and the endless protests of the religious right do point toward the big "C." And at least for this loyal viewer, even the novelty factor has worn thin.

It doesn't take a crystal ball, however, to make some other predictions. If *Ellen* is canceled, that means no more queer network TV. Oh yes, there will still be the occasional stereotype flitting across the screen, as well as many of the encoded characters like our gal Xena, Lesbian Princess. But if Ellen Morgan leaves sit-com land, we all take a time-machine trip back into the Dark Ages of network TV, where queers were neither seen nor heard outside the confines of finger-pointing "lookie there, Ma"-style tabloid shows. Sadly, *Ellen* remains the only queer game-in TV town.

Along with the likes of O.J. Simpson and Monica Lewinsky, Ellen Morgan has been one of the most controversial, boring and overexposed personalities in recent memory. Which attaches a certain irony to pleading that Ellen retain real estate in her cozy little middle-class, white-on-white gay world. This, however, spotlights the locus of the problem: The TV landscape remains so barren of queer characters we must fight to maintain this one little square of (unbearably suburban) queer territory. If *Ellen* gets canceled, it seems highly unlikely that anything even remotely comparable will fill its comfortable queer shoes.

As ABC execs ponder whether Ellen gets the ax, interim programming has already been primed for the current *Ellen* audience. *Something So Right*, a sit-com that bombed a few seasons back starring Mel Harris, refugee of *thirtysomething* and innumerable TV movies, hardly stakes new ground. Its familiar familial focus is the blended family created from a series of divorces and remarriages, and the children of those various unions — *The Brady Bunch*, 90s-style. A promo for

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by Roberto Friedman
and the Jets

Christina Ricci loves playing troubled, peculiar teens, from the wryly malicious Wednesday in the *Addams Family* movies to the morose suburban kid in *The Ice Storm*. An upcoming release, *The Opposite of Sex*, finds her wreaking havoc on her half-brother in ways that make Wednesday seem like a girl scout. Within days after running away from a dysfunctional home to live



Christina Ricci in *The Ice Storm*.

with the brother (played by **Martin Donovan**), a gay guy in his mid-30s, she's seduced his young lover (the delicious-looking **Ivan Sergei**), helped him get fired from his job as a high school teacher, robbed him, and in several other ways made his life miserable. *Opposite* is the directorial debut of **Don Roos**, whose work as a screenwriter includes *Single White Female*, whose eavesdrop-



Juanita More! on the 19 Poke, on her way to Sugar at the Stud.

ping gay neighbor had a pivotal role, and *Boys on the Side*, in which **Whoopi Goldberg** played the lesbian who got no sex (you know the type). Donovan gets only a tad more action than Goldberg did, but *Opposite*, which opens in May, has many amusing moments, and the very un-PC Ricci gets to toss off lines about the predilections of gay men (including ones who get "reamed like the Lincoln Tunnel"), censorship at Blockbuster, and — ever so topical these days — the media's love of a good sex scandal.

The thin man

Another early spring release with a quirky perspective on gay life is *The Hanging Tree*, about a formerly obese man (**Chris Leavins**) who returns, thin, after a 10-year absence, to his dysfunctional family. The film surrealistically blends scenes from his childhood (**Troy Veinotte** is great as his overweight self) with the present, which revolves around the marriage of his trashy sister, whose groom made it with her gay bro in high school. *The Hanging Tree* is the feature directing debut of its author, **Thom Fitzgerald**, who professes himself a bit miffed that Leavins shaped his character by observing Fitzgerald.

Luck be a lady

Closer to home, seems there were fireworks aplenty in the aftermath of the "Lady Luck" fundraiser at Space a few weeks back. The event itself, a gambling party and art show with all the art priced to move at under \$100, was a considerable success, raising \$3,500 for Visual Aid.

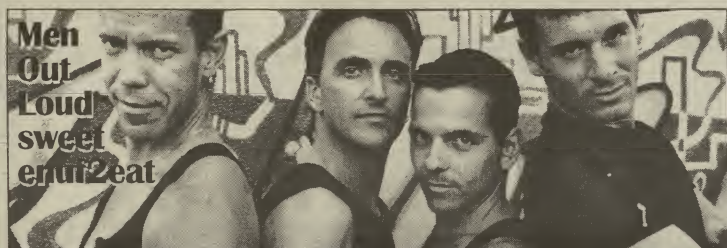
After the show, insatiable partiers headed over to the Saturday night club Sugar at the Stud. That's where that salon owner and his boyfriend the art maven got into a huge fight. Mr. Salon, fucked up on a very illicit substance, told Boyfriend it was his responsibility to get him home, then promptly got 86ed from the club in a big way. Fisticuffs ensued. Let's just say it was another very nasty public divorce.

Earlier, "Lady Luck" herself, **Juanita More!**, and her entourage had excused themselves from the festivities to have a decompressing cocktail at the Giraffe before jumping the 19 Polk bus to the afterparty.

A lady Muni driver living large was already over it, because she had to wait for Miss Juanita to negotiate the steps with her high heels. Several queens were already

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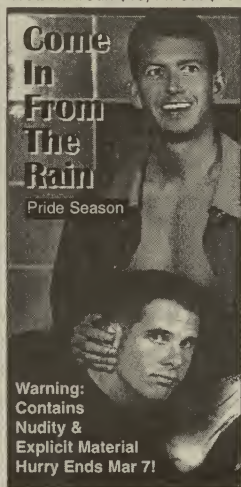
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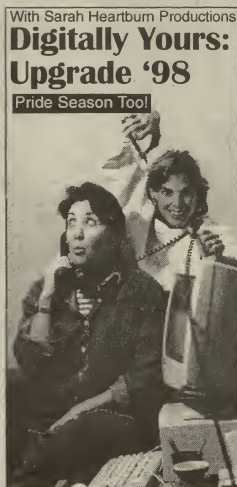
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FILM

Anesthetized Woolf

Vanessa Redgrave as Mrs. Dalloway

by Robert Julian

Translating Virginia Woolf's stream-of-consciousness prose to the screen is no easy task. And the difficulty is all too apparent in director Marleen Gorris' current rendering of Woolf's *Mrs. Dalloway*. The novel is told through an examination of the inner lives of its characters over a 12-hour period, and Gorris' film employs voice-over narration as the vehicle for this self-revelation. But Eileen Atkins'

depth exploration. Should Clarissa have rebelled against society? What would have been the cost of such a rebellion? Is suicide preferable to a life of misery? What does the road not taken look like? Through the use of flashbacks, the film shows the young Clarissa (Natascha McElhone) pursued by Peter, a dominating control freak, and Richard, a dull but stable admirer. She chooses Richard because she thinks he will give her more room to navigate in the world. But their married life becomes Clarissa's gilded cage. Her natural physical

Marleen Gorris previously directed the highly overrated Best Foreign Film Oscar-winner, *Antonia's Line*. In that film, all men were pigs or, at best, benign inconveniences, while Antonia and her female friends were the light of the universe. Gorris wisely avoids that kind of agitprop oversimplification in *Mrs. Dalloway*, but even here, the cards remain heavily stacked against the male of the species.

Yet the feminist issues are real, and Virginia Woolf's own personal experiences with regret, repression, and recrimination were so severe that they led to mental illness and her eventual suicide by drowning in 1941. It is a shame that Gorris' direction of *Mrs. Dal-*

loway allows such provocative and important issues to be anesthetized by tedium. ▼

Mrs. Dalloway opens March 6.



Vanessa Redgrave as Mrs. Dalloway.

script relies heavily on pregnant pauses, and Vanessa Redgrave, in the title role, offers an all-too-Pinteresque interpretation of Clarissa Dalloway. Redgrave's blank-faced moments of self-reflection often play like petite mal seizures.

Clarissa Dalloway, somewhere between forty and death, is giving a dinner party. As she prepares to receive her guests she shops, sews, talks, and reflects upon her life and loves up to this moment in time. An old suitor named Peter (Michael Kitchen) shows up unexpectedly, as does Sally (Sarah Badel), Clarissa's adolescent lesbian lover. Clarissa's husband Richard (John Standing), a boring but devoted dolt, does whatever it is that London politicians do; and in a parallel plot-line, a shell-shocked WWI veteran (Rupert Graves) gets ready to kill himself. All this moves at a speed that surpasses that of John Huston's *The Dead*, but not by much.

There are some wonderful themes attached to the skeleton of this narrative, themes worthy of in-

attraction to Sally is stifled, as is her innate desire for independence. The wild and brilliant Clarissa settles for a life of genteel servitude. Woolf's story illuminates the limited options available to women of her time, with special attention paid to the area of individual choices and where they lead us. And in doing so, it causes us to examine our own lives and choices.

Costume designer Judy Pepperdine and cinematographer Sue Gibson make significant contributions with their recreation of London circa 1923. The film's visual palette is full of muted colors, and the authentic costume choices reflect the prim and proper attitudes that prevailed just before the explosion of the flapper era. Michael Kitchen excels in his portrayal of the fidgeting, domineering Peter, and Margaret Tyack almost steals the film with her rendering of Lady Bruton, a busy-body who aspires to become a social reformer. But all these worthy efforts cannot save a film that never quite clicks into place.



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The royal treatment

'Views of Merchant Ivory' at the Castro

by Matthew Kennedy

The surnames Merchant and Ivory evoke so much for so many: literate dialogue, the pinched faces of Edwardian Brits thwarting their passions, rattling teacups, exquisite period detail, meaty acting, lush photography, and the rapture of polite civilization. Now the extraordinary collaboration of producer Ishmail Merchant and director James Ivory is given the royal treatment with *Views of Merchant Ivory*, a one-week film festival at the Castro Theater spanning three continents, 14 films, and 35 years of filmmaking.

There is so much to celebrate. Merchant and Ivory are the screen's foremost translators of English language literature and can count Henry James, Jean Rhys, Kazuo Ishiguro and E.M. Forster among their inspirers. Their frequent screenwriter, Ruth Praver Jhabvala, is a novelist and two-time Oscar winner for their triumphs *A Room With a View* and *Howards End*. Looking priceless on shoestring budgets, their movies are miracles of thrift. They have cultivated a cadre of excellent artists who jump when they call — composer Richard Robbins, costumers John Bright and Carol Ramsey, and director of photography Tony Pierce-Roberts.

But all is not fragrant in the Merchant Ivory garden. The festival provides a few shocking truths about a team that has been all-but-deified. The career output is spotty. Ivory has frequent trouble propelling a story forward, and he and Merchant have made repeated miscalculations with young talent. Too many of their films, including *Shakespeare Wallah*, *Mr. and Mrs. Bridge* and *The Bostonians*, suffer enormously from charmless performances in key roles.

A question lingers: why do they do England so much better than the United States? Certainly it's not from provincialism. Merchant is Indian-born and New York University-educated. Jhabvala is Polish-Jewish, raised in England, and a long-term resident of India. Ivory, surprisingly, is American, born in Berkeley 70 years ago and raised in Klamath Falls, Oregon. Yet their best films, *A Room With a View*, *Howards End* and *Remains of the Day*, are lightyears ahead of the American set *The Bostonians* and *Mr. and*



James Wilby and Hugh Grant in *Maurice*.

Mrs. Bridge. *Slaves of New York* belongs at a toxic dump site. So is Ivory only as good as his source? Or does he have trouble hiding an encroaching ennui?

The Bostonians (1984) translates Henry James' tale of women's emancipation in the 1880s to the

Potter in the pivotal role of Verena Tarrant lacks the requisite charisma.

Heat and Dust (1983) may be the best of their non-England-based films. From a novel by Jhabvala, it jumps from the colonized Indian empire of the 1920s

Looking priceless on shoestring budgets, their movies are miracles of thrift. But why do they do England better than the USA?

screen with bloodless fidelity. As the militant Olive Chancellor, Vanessa Redgrave mixes ethereal acting with the strident political activism that so vexes the Hollywood establishment. As an ardent young lawyer, Christopher Reeve is unconvincing, and Madeleine

to the teeming conflicted nation of the 1980s. Told through the eyes of two Englishwomen, the Western fascination for India has rarely been more finely captured. Warmed by the presence of Julie Christie, Indian heartthrob Shashi Kapoor, and Greta Scacchi in a bright film debut, *Heat and Dust* has one of the loveliest endings of any Merchant Ivory movie. As the past and present merge in a mountain outpost, the future is suggested with hope for the restless modern traveller (Christie) who can never really get inside India's mysteries.

Appearing on a double bill with *Heat and Dust* is the rare *Shakespeare Wallah* (1965), which tells the tale of a declining British theater troupe in 1960s India. The set-up is rich with possibilities — intercultural romance, theater versus movies, the clash of generations, and big British egos rattling around the hinterland of post-colonial India. Shashi Kapoor and Madhur Jaffrey make an exceedingly handsome couple, but the flashes of humor and romance don't add up to a fully sat-



Julie Christie in *Heat and Dust*.

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THEATRE

Higbie and Trull perform in Berkeley

Gotta sing...

by Deborah Peifer

Barbara Higbie and Teresa Trull have combined their considerable musical talents for the first time since their 1983 release, *Unexpected*, to create the extraordinarily fabulous *Playtime*. This CD will get you up and rocking when you aren't overwhelmed by the haunting tenderness of "New Found Love" or "Wings." No kidding, *Playtime* is one gorgeous CD, combining rock, folk, and jazz in songs that touch both the heart and the feet (Trull's "Sway of the Hips" reaches another body part altogether). Higbie and Trull perform highlights from careers that span the history of women's music, as well as cuts from the new collaboration, at Freight & Salvage Coffee House, 1111 Addison, Berkeley, on March 7 at 8 p.m. Call (510) 548-1761 for detailed info on F & S shows. Call (510) 601-8932 to charge tickets.



Teresa Trull and Barbara Higbie

Weslia Whitfield performs her unique mix of jazz and cabaret, featuring tunes from her new albums, *My Shining Hour* and *Teach Me Tonight*, at Osher Marin JCC, 200 N. San Pedro Road, San Rafael, on March 7-8. Call 479-2000.

Gotta play...

The 4th annual Working Women Festival runs March 7-29, spotlighting the work of women theatre artists with an eclectic mix of artistic and performance styles. Wilma Bonet shares the tale of "the bright butterfly that (was) her daughter" in *Good Grief, Lolita*. Pulp Vixens trace the story of two All-American high school students who head for Greenwich Village

when they discover that their feelings about other women spark *Innocent Heat*. All performances take place at The 450 Geary Studio. The Festival begins with its Woman of the Year Award, presented this year to Joan Holden, head writer for the San Francisco Mime Troupe. The presentation and party are at P.S. 449 Powell Performance Studios on March 7 at 7 p.m. Call 673-1172 for tickets and information.

Gotta dance...

World Arts West's *People Like Me*, a multicultural dance festival designed to introduce dance to children and children to dance, includes performances open to the general public for the first time this year. Featured companies range from The Neva Russian Dance Ensemble to the Chinese Performing Artists of America. The public performances are March 17-20 and 24-27 at the Cowell Theatre, Fort Mason (441-3687) and April 3-4 at the Oakland Asian Cultural Center, 388

Ninth Street (510-208-6080). Call 474-3914 for information on school programs.

Gotta fly...

One of the real horrors of studying theatre history is trying

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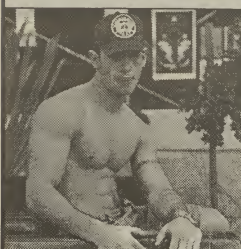
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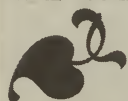
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Men Out Loud, 'Words of His Own' at NCT

The new variety

by Richard Dodds

Variety is already a spice of life at the New Conservatory Theatre Center, where vintage Broadway musicals can play next door to guys acting in the buff. More recently, artistic director Ed Decker has been upping the ante, and the coming week will bring two very different productions from two very different places. *Words of His Own* arrives from Israel to offer a look at gay life in that country, while *Men Out Loud* will journey from Los Angeles to offer four-part harmonies in a gay key.

Unorthodox theatre

Life in Israel is filled with challenges, but the internal divisions and external threats have had a way of letting gay people slip into the future.

"Not only can gays serve in the military, they have to," said Noam Meiri, a noted gay Israeli director and actor. And the Orthodox rabbis who have been pushing to control the country's religious life aren't crusading against gay rights like their Christian counterparts



Noam Meiri and cast members of *Words of His Own*.

in the United States. "There are things that bother them more than us," Meiri said.

In fact, the conservative Netanyahu government is helping underwrite a visit by Meiri's troupe to San Francisco and New York. "You wouldn't expect them to do that," he said recently from his home in Tel Aviv, "but I guess they want to

show that they aren't so bad."

Meiri was set to arrive in San Francisco this week with two fellow Israeli actors for a weekend of English-language performances of "Words of His Own" at the New Conservatory Theatre. "It's a collage of different stories by different writers," Meiri said. Among the themes are the Israeli macho personality, life in and out of the closet, the country's first encounter with AIDS, and family relationships.

"Words of His Own" was first performed in 1994 at the Israeli Gay Pride Day, and has also been seen throughout Britain. In the four years since the production's debut, Meiri has seen attitudes about being gay go through major changes in the country — and even in his company.

"In 1994, I wanted to have gay actors for this show, but couldn't find three gay actors who were ready to say we are playing in a gay theater group," he said. "Now it is much easier for me to find a gay actor who is ready to go with us."

But even with the good news for gay people in Israel, the country is playing catch-up in many ways. "In terms of Israeli gay literature, it is still quite in the beginning," Meiri said, "so there is something quite naive in the text."

And in more personal terms, Meiri remembers back to the '70s, when gays in Europe and America were in the streets and in the discos, as he was discovering his sexuality with no support systems around him. "There were almost no gay places in Israel except gardens, which went with feeling guilty," he said. "I had to take quite a journey to break some walls with myself."

In harmony

Men Out Loud, an a cappella quartet from Los Angeles, isn't as interested in breaking walls as in bridging them. "Obviously, we're an openly gay group," said leader Steve Steinberg. "However, what we really want to be is a crossover group. We want to be gay enough that gay people don't think we're not gay, but we don't want to be so in your face that we scare straight people away."

Opening a short run at the New Conservatory Theatre next week, the group will perform songs from its debut album, *Sweet Enuf 2 Eat* (Mercury Records), that includes such standards as "Somewhere" from *West Side Story*, Van Morrison's "Moondance," and the Beatles' "Yesterday." Here and there, a "she" is turned to a "he" in the

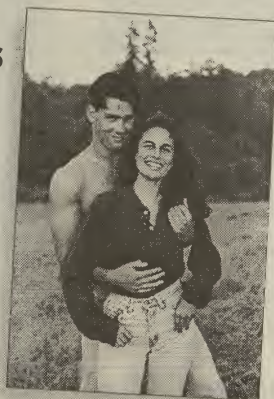
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MUSIC

The trill of victory

Sarah Brightman at Royal Albert Hall

by Robert Julian

KQED's annual March pledge drive brings Sarah Brightman into the fundraising fold via a 45-minute program recorded last September. *Sarah Brightman in Concert at the Royal Albert Hall* features the ex-wife of composer Andrew Lloyd Webber, singing classical arias and

show tunes in English, Spanish, Latin, and Italian. With accompaniment provided by the London Symphony Orchestra, the evening resembles your standard symphony "pops" concert, with a few curious aspects worthy of note.

In the middle of the show, Brightman brings out Lord Webber himself to accompany her on the piano as she sings "Whistle Down the Wind," a new song

from an upcoming Andrew Lloyd Webber musical. Appearing with necktie, but sans coat, Webber looks and acts like a nervous schoolboy. Brightman's other offerings include Puccini's "O Mio Babbino Caro," "Summertime" from *Porgy and Bess*, and the *Phantom of the Opera* standard, "Music of the Night."

A highly competent soprano, Brightman undercuts her own effectiveness by means of a gushing, insipid stage demeanor. There is a certain saccharine quality to her introduction of songs that is not improved by her three costume changes. All ruffles and flounces, brown eyes and bangs, the 36-year-old Brightman bears an unfortunate resemblance to a Keane painting, animated by Disney.

Since she is probably the premiere female interpreter of her



Sarah Brightman

ex-husband's phenomenally popular musical catalog, Sarah Brightman's success should come as no surprise. There is a remarkable musical equivalency between Brightman's vocalizing and Webber's writing. PBS viewers will undoubtedly be divided in their response to *Sarah Brightman in Concert at the Royal Albert Hall*. Some will find the evening goes

down smoothly, and others will choke on the occasion. There is ample justification for either point of view.

If one were to cast Sarah Brightman in her perfect non-Webber metier, it would probably be that of a Gilbert and Sullivan heroine. She is a skilled soprano who could assay any of their wonderful light operas with great aplomb. But like Gilbert and Sullivan, Brightman's unique and specific qualities are not completely in step with the times. This contemporary irrelevancy is both the blessing and the curse of *Sarah Brightman in Concert*. ▼

Sarah Brightman in Concert at the Royal Albert Hall premieres on KQED on Sunday, March 8 at 10:30 p.m.

Curtain Up!

◀ page 37

to get the humor of an utterly topical playwright like *Aristophanes*, the great writer of Greek comedies during the Golden Age. Saving the (comedic) day is *Culture Clash*, which brings its decidedly twisted and highly political vision to Berkeley Repertory's production of *The Birds*, which features an original musical score by **Michael Roth**. If only these creative folk had been around when I studied Greek comedy, I might have gotten the jokes. A little off-the-wall humor can only help to get us through the dismal days of winter. BRT is located at 2025 Addison. Call (510) 845-4700.

Just gotta...

New Conservatory Theatre offers a show with women in it this month! Wow! **Karen Hirst** and **Margery Kreitman** perform their own words in *Digitally Yours: Upgrade '98*, a comic look at lesbian love in cyberspace, through March 28. ... Magician **David Hirata** explores illusion, deception and his Japanese heritage in *Kanji by Starlight*, a story told through a magic show. The show runs March 12-28 at The Marsh, 1062 Valencia near 22nd. Call 826-5750.

Potpourri

Studio A.C.T. is accepting applications for its spring session. Classes include scene study focusing on gay and lesbian themes. For info on Studio classes, call 439-2332. The deadline for application to A.C.T.'s Summer Training Con-



Karen Hirst and Margery Kreitman in *Digitally Yours: Upgrade '98*

gress is May 1. Call 439-2350, or download the info from www.act-sfbay.org. ... **Scott Capurro** and **Karen Ripley** stand-up and make us laugh at Josie's, March 11-14. Also at Josie's through March 8, **Michael Goldfried** explores the curse of bi-coastalism in *Enter, Then Pause*. Call 861-7933. ... The 13th Jewish Music Festival continues through March 8 at various venues. Call (510) 848-0237. ... The 1998 Absurdist Season continues at EXIT Theatre with *Mister Mister* by **Günter Grass**, and **Harold Pinter's The Dumb Waiter** and *Victoria Station*. All plays run through April 7 at 156 Eddy Street. Call 673-3847. ... **Christopher Copeland** presents *Torch Me a Love Song* at Coconut Grove Dinner Club, 1415 Van Ness on March 7. Call 776-1616. ▼

If you have gossip, inquiries, or information of a performative nature, send them to dpeifer@delphi.com or via snail mail to the B.A.R.

Men Out Loud

◀ previous page

lyrics. "It's fairly subtle," Steinberg said from Los Angeles. "We didn't want to crash somebody over the head with it."

In addition to songs from the album, the performance includes "a little bit of everything, from dance music to reggae to Broadway," Steinberg said. "Last year, we did a 17-city gay pride tour to promote our album, and we also tell stories about the tour. We have a lot of choreography as well. So it's sights, sounds, and story."

Some of that story is the bumpy road the group has traveled to this point. In the beginning, the quartet was named *Vicki Lester*, a campy reference to Judy Garland's character in *A Star Is Born*, and its members were a cappella hobbyists. They were discovered at an event in Los Angeles called the Harmony Sweepstakes by a record producer looking for an a cappella group willing to be molded toward a more commercial sound. Soon they had a new name and a deal at Warner Bros. But a change in personnel at the

label landed their disc on the shelf. Meanwhile, three members of the group decided they weren't ready to make a full-time commitment to a musical career, leaving Steinberg to search for three new harmonizers. Finally, Mercury agreed to buy out their contract and release the album.

"But the album had been recorded with the old guys," Steinberg said, "and I didn't want to do a Milli Vanilli thing. I knew we had to get back into the studio, but I didn't want to tell the record company that. We just told them we were putting some finishing touches on it, but we re-recorded the entire album in 10 days."

Although he still calls *Men Out Loud* an a cappella group, most of the songs on the album have musical accompaniment, and in performance they use pre-recorded musical tracks as well. "Our producer likes to call it 'vocally driven music,'" Steinberg said. "Some groups are really purists, and they said they wouldn't sign even for a major deal if it meant they had to sing with tracks. To us, as much as we love a cappella, we'd also love to have a hit." ▼

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Asian Film Fest

Arts cover

arrangement. Her recommendation of Ramon to Selya is masterfully terse — "He's a bachelor ... he's nice!" — and typical of a character driven above all by her need to maintain her family's status.

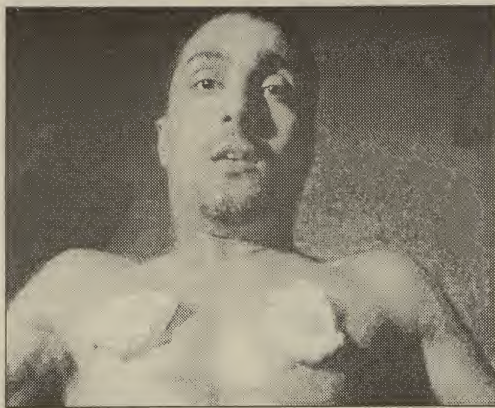
Parts of the plot have a gratuitous feel that might in fact work better in the heightened reality of opera. Particularly irritating is an AIDS motif that comes out of nowhere. And some of the scenes approach bathos, as when Selya's old boyfriend — a megahunk named Bobby — literally tears her kid out of Ramon's arms. But the film is redeemed by the hot sex scenes between Ramon and Carding, and between Bobby and Selya, and the film's sharp observations of the vicious intrigues of village life.

Another domineering matriarch is at the center of Francisco Aliwalas's *Disoriented*, about the travails of a Filipino-American family in their attempts to join the rising middle class. Writer-director Aliwalas plays West, a nervous pre-med student whose mother (Potri Ranka Manis) directs his every move through a breathtaking array of passive-aggressive strategies. The gay element comes when a jock brother who vanished four years earlier returns as a screaming drag queen. In the classic tradition, the sudden presence of the queer disrupts the pretty middle-class picture, forcing mama's hand and making West realize he needs to pursue his own dreams. Powerful scenes of a family in emotional distress are undermined by raging stereotypes like a white boy obsessed with Asian culture, and an overcooked queer German fashion photographer.

Fetching boys

Yellow Kitty is the umbrella title for a group of mostly boy-oriented shorts that, while mainly made in the U.S. (BOMgAY was shot in India), cover a wide psychic geography. From New York's

Chinatown comes Ho Tam's *Season of the Boys*, a moody few minutes devoted to a group of shirtless street basketball players. While these fetching boys play, an offscreen narrator reminds us that time will catch up with these gorgeous, mindless narcissists. On a more educational note, Young Chung's *Teething* offers ever-welcome lessons in the art of the blow job. The grainy look of this piece is a pleasant recollection of the classic porn loop, but *Teething* is more tantalizingly suggestive than explicit in its shots of an energetic mouth grimacing, opening and closing rapidly, and forming the perfect irresistible "o." Ming-Yuen S. Ma's *Sniff* is a self-conscious "meditation on memory and loss," per the press notes: in an interminable five minutes, a naked man crawls around a bed licking the sheet in an attempt to find traces of "past paramours." Stuart Gaffney's *Cunanan's Conundrum* explores the transgressive power of the "killer queen's" mysterious multiple ethnicities and skill at "passing." Through news footage and commentary, Gaffney shows that even in death, Cunanan remained hidden:



Rahul Bose in BOMgAY

shooting himself through the mouth destroyed his face to the extent that it took hours to positively identify him.

Swati Khurana and Leith Gill Murgai's *Julpri* drains the already dry well of drag in its picture of a group of South Asian transies, "waterfairies," who pause from playing dress-up long enough to

offer sage words: "Drag is about being larger than life — always." A fascinating glimpse into how American mores are viewed outside our borders comes when one of the queens remembers her sister in India saying, "In America, men get married to men." BOMgAY effectively weds the poetry of R. Raj Rao to sketches of the op-

pressions and redemptions of Indian gay life that includes a public urinal gay-bashing and a queer dinner party.

Lesbian fun is represented here with two shorts. The first, Anie S8 Stanley and Patty Chang's *Paradise*, mingles hardcore porn footage with impressionistic images of Las Vegas at night. Is that a penis, a dildo, or a finger being shoved in? Mother-daughter relations are sweetly skewered in *Untitled (My Mama)*, with director Lynne Chan as narrator. Footage of Hong Kong superstars like Jet Li and shots of teetering wind-up toys are punctuated with Chan's pithy comments. Best of all is an exchange where Chan tells her mother she got "beaten up at art school" because she called somebody a "modernist." Mother's reply: "Well, then, you deserved it!"

The 16th Annual International Asian American Film Festival runs March 5-12 at the AMC Kabuki 8 Theatres, The Palace of Fine Arts Theatre, and the Pacific Film Archive. Call 255-4300.

Ellen

Arts cover

the show situates the characters together, enumerates their familial connections, then features the youngest child proclaiming, "Newt Gingrich is going to love us." The implication: *Something So Right* is risqué and will upset conservatives.

Hardly. In fact, in its previous incarnation, *Something So Right* was something so average it was taken off-air for revamping. Not as funny as *Mad About You*, not as cutesy as *Dharma and Greg*, just plain ol' straight pseudo-fun. It only compares to *Ellen* in one area: it takes place in a major city, yet — surprise! — there are no people of color. There are also no queers, even serving canapés or arranging *objets*.

False security

Though Ellen DeGeneres's extended 15 minutes of fame has given many queers a false sense of security about the future of queer TV, the reality differs significantly. If ABC were test-driving a new queerish sit-com (say one with gay men sharing the occasional kiss, a non-drag-attired black fag or Latina dyke, and lesbian and gay characters already out of the closet) in the interim while *Ellen* were on hiatus, one might feel more confident about the commitment of at least one network to a modicum of lavender programming. But, as the English say, it's not on.

A dilemma, surely, for all those self-congratulatory boobs who have declaimed the end of homophobia on the airwaves even as *Ellen* remained our only — and hence, highly vulnerable — test

case for queer TV. ABC fell all over itself taking credit for how groundbreaking a network they were when *Ellen* (initially) rose in the ratings after DeGeneres and Morgan came out publicly. Now that straight TV critics are yawning through every moral-laden episode (last week: What if the world were gay and one *Ellen* character, Spence, were the only straight person?), ABC execs are backing away as if a stinkbomb had been tossed into the boardroom.

Like it or not (and I don't), *Ellen* is groundbreaking TV simply because the words gay and lesbian (and rainbow) are spoken in every episode. But like *Beavis and Butthead*, *Ellen* has proven that it takes more than shock value to make TV work. Gay alone simply isn't cutting edge; context is everything. *Ellen*'s viewers never experienced the dullness that forms the comedic nexus of every other successful sit-com and which

vaults the crisis moments which characters experience into the TV foreground — like Murphy Brown's breast cancer or Jamie's pregnancy (*Mad About You*). The explanatory element of each *Ellen* episode has become so tiresome even queers desperate to hear the words "gay" and "lesbian" or determined to support DeGeneres forget *Ellen* is must-see TV.

As we wait for ABC's decision and letter-writing campaigns begin, viewers are left to ponder where queers really stand in TV land. If *Ellen* gets axed, we'll know: back on the margins, arranging flowers and serving canapés while TV explores the lives of "real" (i.e., straight) characters. ▼

The general comment line for responses to ABC, in case of *Ellen*'s cancellation, is (212) 456-7477.

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DANCE

Robert Moses' Kin at Theater Artaud

Family reunion

by Heather Wisner

Robert Moses is so quick that anyone who blinked during his solo at his company's show *The Cullings* may have missed significant moments in the evening's action. During *Shard*, set to the mournful, rhythmic loops of Bonga's "Angola 72," Moses' feet barely touched the ground between rotations as he whipped through a series of seemingly weightless barrel turns which traced a whispery arc across center stage. Moses is thrilling when he's airborne, which he was for much of this piece, running and launching himself into very high, speedy *brisé volé*, a scissoring of the legs that suggests flight in its name. When he touched down, he really touched down, sauntering and swaying across the floor with a low-slung center of gravity, his hips twitching seductively.

Moses, a Twyla Tharp and American Ballet Theater alum who has settled into the Stanford dance faculty, wasn't the only attraction at the company's third annual home season performance at Theater Artaud last week, although watching him dance informs the work he sets on other dancers. There were 12 in this show, some of them Stanford grads, others veteran "Kin" of the company Moses founded three years ago with the express purpose of presenting work with an historically informed African-American perspective.

While some of the dances have been created as movement for movement's sake, class and gender issues have also worked their way into the repertory. The message doesn't always come across: The work-in-progress *At Alternate Times Brain Dead and Deadly* was billed as a duet based on the premise that intelligence is determined by race, with two men rushing to accumulate status symbols, but what emerged was a vaudevillian sort of piece, featuring a man in a chair reciting tongue twisters and listlessly scuffling his tap shoes against the floor as a line of bathing beauties cavorted behind him.

Nod to classicism

Opening night's Program I offered eight dances in all, however, giving audiences lots else to absorb. Like Tharp, Moses gives a nod to classicism within a largely modern vocabulary, and in *Humm*, a premiere ensemble piece set to gospel music and spirituals, augments the dance with a gestural language that evokes healers, as dancers do a laying of hands on mouths, foreheads, and hearts. The steady hum of group passages across the floor are punctuated by moments of stillness — as one dancer breaks away and slides forward into an unwavering arabesque penchée — or brief, oddly personal contact, like the dancers who try to storm a sort of human wall, and are suddenly lifted up by the dancers forming the wall and set down on

the other side.

Title piece "The Cullings," another premiere which opens with an explosion of white light, will remind some viewers of Jerome Robbins and *West Side Story*, particularly with the cool jazz laid down live by the Marcus Shelby Trio, and the Beat stylings of spoken word artist Marcus Conrad Poston. (Moses, who strode between clusters of warring kids like some kind of tough but caring authority figure, also evoked *The Blackboard Jungle* or *To Sir With Love*.) But the dancing had the very '90s feel of a music show, with dancers hurtling headlong into each others' arms or circling one another warily, contact improv style, in mock combat.

Company dancers Jose M. Comoda and Tiane Frias shone in *Doscongio* and *The Suppliant*, respectively. Comoda began his career at the ancient (by dance standards) age of 19, but has made up for lost time. He calmly and lyri-

cally traveled through Moses' sometimes silly, musically literal interpretation of a Chopin sonata. Frias, meanwhile, was a fury of limbs and hair as she feverishly pleaded her case to a trio of stone-faced matrons in *The Suppliant*.

San Francisco Ballet principal dancer Julia Adam contributed the third premiere to the evening. *Seven Ages in 3/4* is a seven-part piece on the stages of life; each piece is set to folk, classical, or R&B music in 3/4 time, so that the dancers are literally waltzing through life. Though the piece would have benefited from some trimming, Adams has a talent for indelible imagery. A mother's anxious push-pull chase with her child, and the angel who gives a man flying lessons linger after the piece concludes. The program concluded with *Mother May I*, a *Chorus Line*-type of dance jam run along a diagonal, with Moses bopping joyfully to the live whoops and burbles of SoVoSo. ▼



Robert Moses



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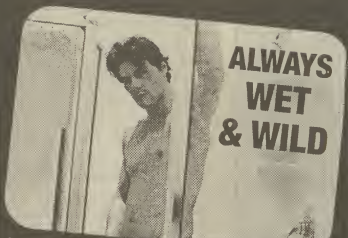
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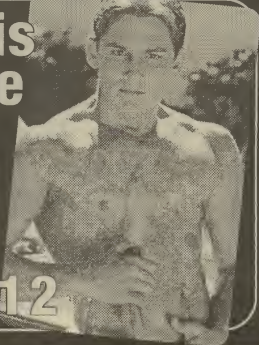
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Pop royale

Imperial Teen plays Noise Pop Fest

by Marc Vogl

Much of the music-loving world was at home watching the Grammys last week. What a shame, considering that a great time was to be had at the Great American Music Hall the same night, when the headlining San Francisco home boys and home girls of Imperial Teen presented a clinic on sophisticated pop.

The occasion was the first of nine 1998 Noise Pop Festival concerts. For six years now, local music fan-turned-producer Kevin Arnold has been putting together the annual showcase to pair, as he says, the "bands you really want to see with bands you may have never heard of." The ties that bind the 37 bands taking part in this year's just-concluded festival are a home on college radio and guitar-driven riffs frequently catchy, and almost always noisy.

Imperial Teen is led by guitarist Roddy Bottum (the keyboardist for SF band Faith No More), and for the last three years has included guitarist Will Schwartz, bassist Jone Stebbins, and ex-Sister Double Happiness drummer Lynn Penko. For 45 minutes, the band breezed through eclectic songs off their acclaimed 1995 release, *Seasick*, and adventurous cuts from their forthcoming London Records album, *What's Not to Love?*

Since their last San Francisco show, a ragged, freewheeling Stop AIDS! Benefit concert at the Bottom of the Hill in January, the quirky, inventive popsters had been practicing like banshees in their Folsom Street rehearsal



Imperial Teen: Will Schwartz, Lynn Perko, Jone Stebbins, Roddy Bottum

space. The result was songs ranging from the sprawling, furious "Waterboy" to their serenely cool theme tune.

If half the pop equation is total release, then the other is surely controlled tension. Bottum, who seemed very much the *pater familias* of the ensemble in his gray turtleneck and neat haircut, holds onto the reins in their namesake track. Calmly plucking notes up and down the scale, he gets to the fatalism underlying so many kids' desire to be pop stars. "If I only had another hand/ I'd cut it off and start a band," he sings matter-of-factly.

While so much mainstream pop seems like the rottenest candy, there's something substantial about Imperial Teen's seductive tunes. Even the group's most lolly-ish pop turns the typical teenage sexuality song on its head.

Hanson isn't going to sing about queer boys hitting puberty on MTV anytime soon. In "Butch," Bottum and Schwartz, on the other hand, describe how a character is "a troubled teen," a "prince [who] wants to be a

queen," and then soar into a chorus of "Butch is pink/ and butch is blue/ you like strawberries/ and I like you." 500 satisfied fans nod their heads and sing along.

The cuts from *What's Not to Love?* indicate that Imperial Teen is going to keep pushing the envelope musically as well as lyrically. One unreleased number veered into instrumental territory marked out by electronica rockers Trans Am, and another, featuring Schwartz's piercing falsetto, blended a gunslinging Western motif with a Rick James funk thang in a way that screams out for a slot on a Tarantino soundtrack.

Between discreetly-smoked cigarettes off to the side of the Great American stage, Schwartz commented on his band's unique qualities. Is it that the words range farther afield from shallow love songs or self-obsessed angst? Is it that the music experiments with genre as often as the musicians themselves switch instruments? "Yeah," said the cagey Schwartz, "all of that. It's not just noisy pop music." ▼

DANCE

Balanchine's muse

Dance legend Maria Tallchief, one of George Balanchine's principal muses, appears with Bay Area dance luminary Evelyn Cisneros of the San Francisco Ballet as part of the "Words on Dance" lecture series on March 9, 7 p.m. at the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Theater. The conversation between the two ballerinas will be illustrated with rare film and video footage. Tickets are priced at \$15, 20 and 35. Call 978-ARTS. ▼



Stymied by Love

Nick Broomfield's 'Kurt and Courtney'

by John Blanco

While watching director Nick Broomfield's frustration in trying to get Courtney Love before the cameras in his new documentary *Kurt and Courtney*, I was reminded of

the difficulty Maximilian Schell had in getting Marlene Dietrich to cooperate in the making of a documentary on her life. What both Schell and Broomfield learned is that performers like Dietrich and Love, creators of their own myths, don't like other people poking around their lives looking for

truth. The difference between the two directors is that Schell respected Dietrich and made a serious, lyrical film, while Broomfield's sleazy, shit-stirring documentary proves he has nothing but contempt for Love.

With *Kurt and Courtney*, Broomfield set out to make a film about Love and her late husband, Nirvana frontman Kurt Cobain, but was stymied at every turn by Love. The British director's attempts to interview Love, which finally involved enlisting the services of self-described "stalkerazzi," are chronicled in the film. We also see Broomfield battling with Showtime to honor their commitment to broadcast the movie. (Showtime eventually passed on the project because of what Broomfield feels was pressure from Love's attorneys.)

Love fought Broomfield and his documentary right up to its slated premiere at last January's Sundance Film Festival, where the movie was ultimately dropped from the schedule at the last minute under threat of a lawsuit. After seeing *Kurt and Courtney*, it's understandable why Love doesn't want it released. The movie is filled with Love's former friends and associates calling her everything from a harpy to an egomaniac to a bad lay — and these are some of the milder slams. The most outrageous charge leveled at Love — by her estranged father, for one — is that she had a role in



Kurt Cobain, missing in action; Courtney Love, slammed.

Cobain's 1994 death.

Broomfield investigates the accusation of Love's involvement in her husband's death before finally refuting it as conspiracy theorist nonsense. But the question is, why spend time investigating a charge that is so sensationalistic and hard to swallow in the first place? This film, like Broomfield's previous documentaries on Heidi Fleiss and Aileen Wuornos, is unabashedly tabloid in its approach: trashy fun at times, but never very credible.

It's difficult to trust many of the interviewees that Broomfield thrusts before the cameras. Too many of them seem wasted, deceitful, or unbalanced. Or all of the above in the case of the late El Duce, a member of the shock-metal band The Mentors, who claims Love offered to pay him \$50,000 to "whack" Kurt. Another factor working against the credibility of the interviewees is that Broomfield paid them each between \$200 and \$300 for their

time.

Don't go to *Kurt and Courtney* expecting any insight into Cobain as a person or an artist. Broomfield interviews Tracy Miranda, "Cobain's girlfriend prior to Love, and his aunt Mary, but they both offer mainly surface observations of him. ("He was always playing jokes," recalls Miranda.) Broomfield also sticks to superficialities and easy conclusions when analyzing Cobain. "Punk rock was an escape," Broomfield says, straining for a deep thought. "It offered Kurt his way out."

Despite its misleading title, this movie really isn't about Cobain. What Broomfield intended as a documentary on rock's superstar couple of the early '90s ultimately turned into a hatchet job on Courtney Love. ▼

Kurt and Courtney plays through March 18 at the Roxie Theatre. For information call 863-1087.



Tedious twaddle

by Deborah Peifer

A Moment's Indiscretion by Peggy J. Herring; Naiad, \$11.95

I get really annoyed with writers who refuse to reveal what the reader already knows. In her latest Naiad novel, *A Moment's Indiscretion*, Peggy Herring maintains her secret, with a coyness that is more than a little irritating, long after the truth is obvious to the duller reader.

Unfortunately, the open secret is not the only problem with this pointless novel. Plot, character, dialogue — pick any topic or element, and Herring will have found a way to make it tedious, unbelievable and strained.

Jackie Knovac has finally rid herself, with the help of restraining orders and police intervention, of the psychotic Phyllis. She decides that love is too threatening a possibility ever to consider again. Enter the gorgeous, brilliant, hot-for-her Valerie, who is everything any woman (including the no-longer-afraid-of-commitment Jackie) could desire ... except for (ta-da!) a secret. Which is, we figure out very early on, that she married a gay man to help secure his \$20 million inheritance.

Valerie and her gay husband have to stay married until he's 30, but she shares a penthouse with Benny and his lover, Colin, and is free to engage in as many discreet affairs as she wishes. Happy, happy, happy, that's what they all are, but how will she tell Jackie her dark secret? How? How? How?

As it happens, Jackie finds out before Valerie has a chance to tell, but it's OK because she understands. Stay in the closet? Sure! Miss important days together because husband and wife have to placate his family? No problem! After Valerie and Jackie are together briefly, convince Benny to come out to the family, expose the sham marriage, deal with psycho Phyllis, and have babies? OK!

Well, actually, no. Were the

lives of these characters not so dreary, I suppose the combination of fabulous wealth, beautiful people, psychotic wackos and true love might be sort of fun in a *Dynasty* or Jackie Collins sort of way, but they are stunningly tedious. If any one achieved even a single complete dimension or a non-stereotypical character trait, I was unable to discern it. *A Moment's Indiscretion* required considerably more moments of my life to read than it deserved. Save yourself that valuable time. ▼



Lucky in love

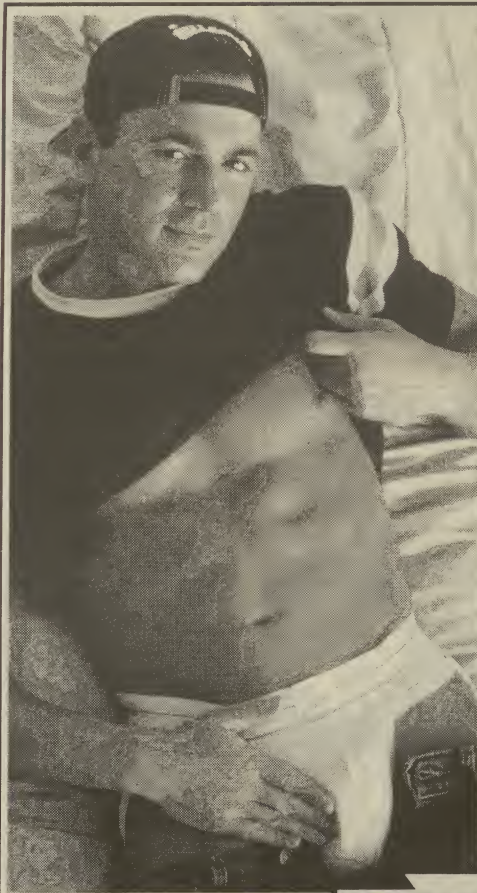
by Deborah Peifer

Letting Go by Ann O'Leary; Naiad, \$11.95

Laura is a beautiful, successful woman who has everything she needs, except a lover. Her painful memories of her previous relationship, however, make her think that true love and monogamous bliss are *not* for her. Lucky thing, because Kelly, a woman-in-every-port kind of gal, believes that Laura is just right to fill her occasional empty evening.

Laura is happy with this purely (or should that be impurely?) sexual relationship until she finds herself the object of serious adoration by Kate, a baby dyke looking for love in all places, wrong or right. When Laura decides to add Kate to her life in a casual way — while Kate is thinking U-Haul — well, you can just imagine what comes next, and who.

Or maybe you can't, because Ann O'Leary takes a fairly predictable situation and shakes it up very nicely, offering more than a few twists on an old story. Better than her plots or her plot twists, however, are her very well-developed characters. I especially enjoyed the baby dyke, whose puppy love reminded me of a time very long ago. With some laughs and a few tears, *Letting Go* is a pleasurable read that will open your eyes or bring back memories — or maybe both. ▼



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Leather capers, U.S.A.

by Mister Marcus

It's only March, but leatherfolk around the country are back raising money, pride, sashing candidates and, yes, even fighting amongst themselves. At least that's the case in San Diego, where Club X (formerly NLA-San Diego) is experiencing a controversy that has generated thousands of words on the Internet and divided that community. Charges or racism surrounding the upcoming Leatherfest have been leveled, and calls for a boycott have been made. There are hurt feelings on all sides punctuated by the "he said, she said, they said" rhetoric that characterizes all such conflicts. I'd rather not go into the sordid details because, frankly, I don't know who or what to believe. If you're planning to attend Leatherfest '98 in San Diego, contact your leather friends there and let them give you the latest. Due to scheduling conflicts, I cannot attend.

On the brighter side, a lot of fun things have occurred since last we met on these pages. Last Tuesday and Wednesday, the Mardi Gras party at Daddy's turned out to be quite a night, with people doing almost anything to get a string of beads. David Kelsey was absolutely wailing on his organ!

From Sydney, Australia, Sam Medrano flashes that Mardi Gras Down Under is more fun than it is in New Orleans! Over 400 leatherfolk were on the leather cruise; SF's Gay Men's Chorus was a big hit at Sydney Town Hall; and Jeff Tucker and Dan Hughes were seen carousing at all the venues. (What? They left the Widow Crane at home?)

Over 20,000 people attended "The Party," and promoters, anticipating long lines for the tea rooms, installed a disc jockey to entertain people! Are you reading this Johnny Hedges? A deejay in the isser-pay? Those saucy Aussies!

On Thursday, another record crowd packed the Powerhouse; six dudes had signed up to compete for the Mr. April '99 spot on the BCC. Two chickened out, so judges Will Clark, Andre English and Don Gallup had fun quizzing the remaining four. The Bare Chest Chorus was in fine, robust form.

When all the shenanigans were over, the judges picked the diminutive Paul Tucci for the 1999 calendar; hunky Joe Imbriani was the runner-up. Mr. May 1999 will be chosen on Thursday, March 5, with Leather Daddy



Dyke Mommy '98 Angela Parillo (left) poses with Dyke Daddy Jean Aschbrenner at the Eagle.

Patrick Batt, Leather Daddy's Boy David Meyer and former International Mr. Deaf Leather Daniel Sonnellfeld judging. A signer will be provided for the non-hearing!

The 15 Association celebrated its 18th anniversary all last weekend. A fabulous dinner at the Cliff House (their third year there!) on Friday, Feb. 27, kicked off the extravaganza. Peter Fiske got his

Pantheon of Leather Award from the visiting Dave Rhodes, and the new officers were introduced. Steve Cantine is the chairman; Arturo Salazar is the vice chair; that cute Craig Novak is the treasurer; and the ever reliable Chas. Beck is the secretary. Mr. Lurch entertained and had the SMers in stitches as usual, especially with jokes about his new domestic partnership! A hoot!

The Castro Lions hosted the second annual Mr. SF Heart Throb Contest and the Monica Lewinsky Look-Alike Contest at the Eagle on Saturday night. Meanwhile, Mr. Northeast Drummer Will Clark was getting paddled at his birthday benefit for the AIDS Emergency Fund at Daddy's. Tony Apedaile won the heart-throb title, and the Monica Lewinsky winner was a straight man who could have won a Phantom of the Opera look-alike award! Another hoot!

Will Clark left town with a red posterior but full of satisfaction that his volunteerism is paying off. It looks like Will and John Brown are the only current Mr. Regional Drummer title holders who are making their titles work for the good of their communities!

Spoon runs away with the dish

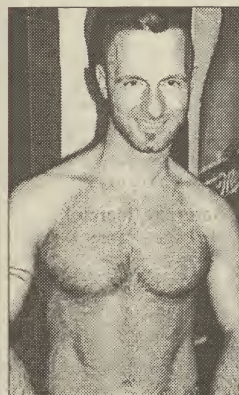
Since the beginning of the International Mr. Leather competition in Chicago way back in 1979, I would estimate some 800 leathermen from around the world have competed. At this

year's 20th anniversary gathering (May 21-25), the Intl. Mr. Leather den boy, Daniel Premack, is trying to organize a reunion, The Medalion Party, for all previous competitors. Contact him c/o IML Inc., 5015 North Clark St., Chicago, IL 60640, or e-mail to: IMLDenBoy@aol.com.

Leather Daddy VIII Don Thompson has divested himself of all contests and turned over the Mr. Ebony in Leather event to Cain Berlinger. The competition will be held during International Mr. Leather weekend in Chicago on Saturday night, May 23, while a trillion other parties will be raging. No word on whether the current holder of the title, Davien O. Nelson, will be there to pass the sash!

And speaking of sashes, Thom Dombkowski, IML chief judge, will be in the Bay Area March 16-21. If any contestants feel the need to talk to him, he can be reached at (510) 526-6507 for an appointment!

Lance Brittain stages his month-long clothing drive to benefit St. Anthony Foundation all this month: Drop off used, but serviceable, clothing at Daddy's, the Edge, Harvey's and the Castro



Daddy's bartender Paul Tucci won the April '99 spot on the Bare Chest Calendar.



Brazen Hussey: Chicago's new Mr. Cell Block Leatherman is Wayne Hussey. He'll compete at International Mr. Leather in May.

LEATHER IN FILM

Smarm school

'Butch Camp': smirks and tired jokes

by Richard Dodds

The main character in *Butch Camp* (opening this week at the Four Star) has a rainbow flag in his apartment, but it might as well be a McGovern-for-president poster. This low-budget gay comedy seems to belong to another era and, at times, even to another sexual orientation. The smarmy '70s feel of horny-teen movies pervades *Butch Camp*, which opens with the hero jacking off to the sounds of a couple having sex in the next room.

Judy Tenuta, the "love goddess" comedienne, gets top billing, but her role is little more than an extended cameo. In a shrill one-note, one-joke performance, she plays the instructor at Butch Camp, where put-upon fairies get training in how to triumph in the high-testosterone heterosexual world.

One of her students is Matt (Paul Denniston), a milquetoast banker who can't hold a lover and who can barely hold a job. On a class assignment to mingle with the enemy, he winds up in a sports bar, where he catches the eye of a predatory female (Jordan Roberts) who sets out to seduce him. She succeeds, but eventually loses Matt to her steady boyfriend (Jason Terisi), who turns out to be a fag in thug's clothing.

Amid the smirks and tired

Judy Tenuta in *Butch Camp*.

jokes (Matt's no-nonsense boss secretly likes to wear outfits from Victoria's Secret), there are occasional amusements. And the romance that unexpectedly blooms between Matt and the sports-bar jock has some nice moments. But it's hard to know to whom writer-

director Alessandro De Gaetano is trying to appeal. *Butch Camp* can make *Norman, Is That You?* look progressive. ▼

Butch Camp opens Friday at the Four Star Theatre.

Station. South of Market venues include the Eagle, Powerhouse, Hole in the Wall and 101 8th St.

B.A.R. staffers were aghast last week when a Japanese queen came in to place an ad changing his last name from Yamashita to YammaGucci. It seems said queen is so enamored of the Italian way of life (thanks to numerous Italian sausage injections) that he decided to "become" Italian.

And I won't even tell you what SF gay media people are saying about Michael Petrelis and his one-man war against the SF AIDS Foundation! And to think he used to be the "darling" of the press corps! ▼



International Mr. Bear winners (l to r): Ron Savides, International Mr. Bear; Sherman Hanke, Grizzly Bear; Loyd Powell, Daddy Bear; and Jeff Boone, Bear Cub.

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Thursday, March 5

Mr. May 1999 gets chosen at the Powerhouse, 2200. Win \$100, free passes to Blow Buddies and Leather Buddies, fame, fortune, a chorus to sing to you, and maybe a new special someone!

Golden Gate Guards' beer/soda bust at Daddy's, \$7, 2100-2400.

Exiles of SF's Leather Thursday at Club Lex (3464 19th St.). Get there about 9 p.m. to have a fun evening.

Friday, March 6

Den and Dave present a "skivvies" party at the Turf Club in Hayward at 2100, with disco dancing and a \$5 beer bust. Hosted by Mr. Alameda County Leather Steve Crouse and Wanda Lay-Ya. No underwear? You pay \$8.

Saturday, March 7

Mr. Daddy's Leather Mark Seeba teams up with Ms. Golden Gate Leather Daddy Erin for "Sexy Leather" for guys and gals at Daddy's at 2100. No price mentioned in my press release.

Sunday, March 8

Pigs in Paradise beer bust and auction at the Eagle, 1500-1800, \$8. However, don't look for any real uniforms at this one.

Mr. SF Leather Barry Rogers hosts a "Jocks in Jocks" beer bust at Daddy's, 1600-1900, \$7, with an auction for dinner dates with the dudes.

Tuesday, March 10

Recruitment party at 2100 at the Edge for Mr. Edge Leather contest. Find out the details, prizes and sign up!

Wednesday, March 11

Mr. Powerhouse Leather contest at 2100. Winner gets \$250 cash prize, title leather vest and represents the bar at Mr. SFL contest.

Wet Wednesday at 933 Harrison. You know the rules and the time. If you don't know, call 863-HEAD (863-4323) and ask for Brad!

Thursday, March 12

AIDS Emergency Fund Town Hall Meeting at Charpe's, 1900, with open format.

Mr. June on the 1999 Bare Chest Calendar gets picked at the Powerhouse at 2200, with judging by Omar Moseley, Greg Pennington and Randy Watson.

Mr. Edge Leather Contest with a \$7 beer bust, 2000-2400. Contest is at 2100. Win cash and a leather title vest by David Speer of Image Leather.

Friday, March 13

Mr. Polk Street Leather '98 contest at the Wooden Horse at 2100. Win \$100 cash and a leather title vest by Mr. Speer.

Big Boot Night at the Loading Dock, 2100 to closing. Well drinks and beer are only \$1.50, plus free boot conditioner from Bent Bar Ranch.

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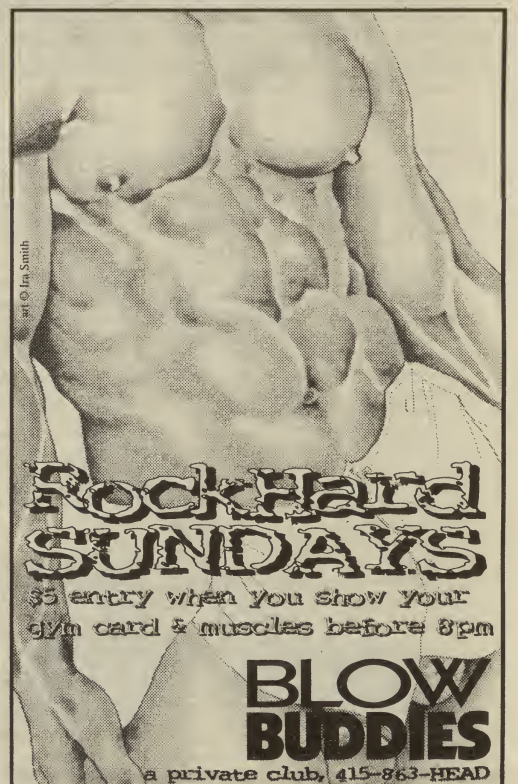


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OUT & ABOUT

Calendare

by Eric M. Rose



Artist Steve McQueen pictured in *Bear*, 1993.

Four-piece foray

If you're looking for a film with eye-popping special effects, mushy romance, or a spicy soundtrack, go to the Kabuki. If, however, you're feeling a bit more avant-garde, you might want to check out the new video installation, *Steve McQueen: Four Projected Images*, that just opened at the SFMOMA. Films that are worth a lot of dough (just ask the James C. Hormel Foundation, they sponsored the show) without looking like they cost it can be a bit confusing, considering most films today have million-dollar special effects, but aren't fit for the trash heap.

Indeed, the McQueen installation can, at first, appear a bit bland. Stripped of the amenities of sound, color (three of the pieces are black-and-white), and narrative structure, these pieces explore the cinematic form at the base of the film genre. However, the effect can be anything but austere, heightening visual perception, focusing our attention on the power of the images and the importance of perspective through the medium of the camera. The powers of metaphor and suggestion are also brought to the fore.

If you're art-timid, this exhibition might seem a bit inaccessible. His piece "Above my Head," for example, can seem like just that to some who may see nothing more than the stoic face of the artist walking with the sky over his head. But with the diversity and inventiveness of the images, there is something for the aesthetic sense of everyone.

Although each piece runs for several minutes before looping back to the beginning, it is doubtful that even the most ardent of fans would be so entranced as to watch each film in its entirety. And with only four pieces, this can make for a rather short foray. So it might be more sensible to plan to take in this exhibit in addition to the permanent collection or some of the other temporary shows. *Four Projected Images* is no *Titanic*, but a lot more is going down here than just a sinking ship. ▼

Steve McQueen: Four Projected Images is showing through May 12 at the SFMOMA, 151 3rd Street. Call 357-4000 for more information.



Dancers in Enrico Labayen's *Damas, Quatro, Puirt a Beul, and Cloth*. See Friday.

Fri

Antigone

The Holy Theatre presents a tribal version of this classic. \$13.50-\$15. Thurs.-Sun. thru 3/21. Call for times; tonight at 7:30pm. Yugen/Noh Space, 2840 Mariposa. 621-7797

Balé Folclórico da Bahia

A display of Carnival's African and Latin influences in samba, capoeira, more. 8pm thru Sat. \$18-\$30. Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley, Bancroft at Telegraph. (510) 642-4013.

Combat!

"An American Melodrama," John Fisher's play on gay men and women in the US military during WWII. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, also 3pm Sat.; thru 4/18. \$21-24. Victoria Theatre, 2961 16th St. 621-7797.

CrimeZyland

Stephen Wilson's interactive art exhibit corresponding to minute-by-minute SF crime stats. Free. Open 24hrs. City Site, 155 Grove. 554-6080.

Darwin's Menagerie:

"Victorians, Sociobiologists and Other Threatened Species," lecture/performance program, incl. Daniel Dennett, James Moore, more. 8pm-10pm tonight, Sat. 10am-4pm. \$20-\$30. Herbst Theatre, 401 Van Ness. 391-9700.

Enter, Then Pause

Jeffrey Friedman (The Celluloid Closet) directs this one-man comedy show starring writer/performer Michael Goldfried. \$10-\$12. Fri.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 6pm. Josie's, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Happy Anniversary

Lou Reda's play: struggles of

a gay relationship. 8:30pm Thurs.-Sat., Sun. at 7:30pm; thru 3/8. \$15. Studio at Theatre Rhino, 2926 16th St. 861-5079.

In the Heart of America

The Player's Club presents this play examining gay love and the Gulf War. 8pm Thurs.-Sat., 2pm Sun. Little Theatre, Creative Arts Building, SFSU, 1600 Holloway. 338-2467.

June Bride

(Just a Traditional Jewish Lesbian Wedding), Sara Felder's play, directed by Jayne Wenger. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm & 7pm. \$18. A Traveling Jewish Theatre, 2800 Mariposa. 399-1809.

Killing My Lobster

"Killing my Lobster Packs a Lunch," Comedic vignettes about families more dysfunctional than yours. 8pm thru Sun. \$8-\$12. Venue 9, 252 9th St. 267-0642.

Kronos Quartet

25th Anniversary concert. 8pm thru Sat. \$20. Theatre Artaud, 450 Florida. 621-7797.

Labayen Dance/SF

Part of Amnesty Int'l Human Rights Arts Festival; thru Sun. Call for times, 8pm tonight. \$17.50-\$20. Cowell Theatre, Ft. Mason Center. 441-3687.

Landscape

Group exhibit, featuring 13 artists, incl. Martha Armstrong, Gary Denmark, Brad Durham, more. Thru 3/31. Mulligan-Shanoski Gallery, 747 Post. 771-0663.

The Mexterminator Project

Guillermo Gómez Peña directs this interactive performance installation. 8pm thru Sat. \$15-\$20. SOMAR, 934

Brannan. 621-7797.

Provocative Aurea:

"Finding a Way In," audio-based performance by RJ Fleck. 8:30pm. \$5-\$10. Jon Sims Center, 1519 Mission. 554-0402.

Vernal Season

Erotic photography by Van Velsor, Linda Rose, Tim Taylor, more. Fri.-Sat. 2-8pm, Sun. 12-5pm; thru 4/5. Raven Gallery, 2187 Market. 551-7940.

Sat

Brass with Class

Women's Philharmonic Brass Quintet perform tribute to Women's History Month. 8pm. \$12-\$25. Herbst Theatre, 401 Van Ness. 392-4400.

Disoriented

Part of the queer work in the Int'l Asian American Film

Fest. \$8. 7:30pm; also Sun. at 4:30pm. AMC Kabuki, 1881 Post. 255-4300.

Fauxgirls

New drag revue from the producers of "En Drag." \$8. 9:30pm & 11pm. Kimo's, 1351 Polk. 885-4535.

Full Gallop

Elizabeth Ashley's one-woman show based on memoirs of former Vogue editor, Diana Vreeland. Thru 4/9; call for times. Today at 2pm & 8pm. \$20-\$55. Stage Door Theatre, 420 Mason. 776-1999

Malaysian Gay/Lesbian Club

Potluck dinner; bring salad, dish, or desert to share. 6pm. Call 789-8042 for location, info.

Saturday Night Gay Comedy

Gay comics Dolores Trevino, Cindy Hagley, Janice Lipton. \$10. 10pm. Josie's, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Treasures of African Art

"From the Tevuren Museum." 125 treasures from Central Africa. \$7. Legion of Honor Mus'm, Lincoln Park, 34th Ave. & Clement. 863-3330.

Words of His Own

An evening of dramatized gay vignettes direct from Israel. \$18. Tonight 8pm, Sun. 2pm. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. 861-8972.

Yello Kitty

GAPA and TriKone present the queer shorts program of the Int'l Asian American Film Fest. \$8. 10:15pm; also Wed. at 9:45pm. AMC Kabuki, 1881 Post. 255-4300.

Sun

Celebration of Women's Creative Process

Installation art, paintings, photography, more. The Post Street Pavilion, 750 Post. 652-5467.

Eros Open House

Featuring new erotic art exhibit by Marc DeBauch. Free. 1pm-4pm. Eros, 2051 Market.

Estelle Freeman

Reads from *Maternal Justice*. 7:30pm. Free. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

Greg Miller

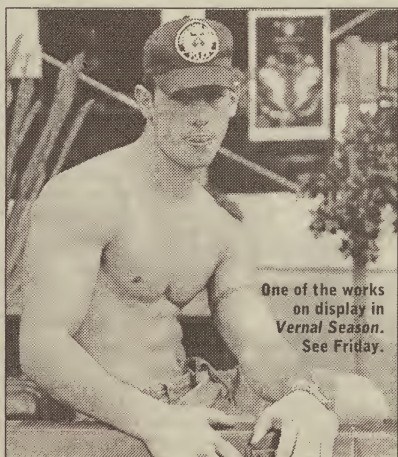
Reads from *Iron Wheel*. 3:30pm. Free. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

Grupo Xihucoatl

Poetry reading benefit for Chiapas featuring local and young poets. 6pm. \$3-\$5. Modern Times, 888 Valencia. 282-9246.

James Lane Traylor

Photography exhibit featuring model Bill Adams; thru 3/15.



One of the works on display in *Vernal Season*. See Friday.

CW Saloon, 1723 Polk. 905-5879.

Live Jazz

Free admission. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

MACT

Men of All Colors Together's Lone Star beer/soda bust, all you can drink. \$6. 4pm-8pm. Lone Star, 1354 Harrison. 675-0201.

The Man In Her Life

Part of the queer work in the Int'l Asian American Film Fest. \$8. 2pm; also Wed. at 9:15pm. AMC Kabuki, 1881 Post. 255-4300.

PFLAG

Parents and Friends of Lesbians & Gays screens documentary *It's Elementary*. 2pm support group, 3pm film. St. Francis Church, 152 Church St. 921-8850.

Queer & Kinky Danger:

"Art of San Francisco's Leather/SM/Kink Worlds;" Artist's reception from 12pm-3pm. Gay and Lesbian Historical Society, 973 Market, Suite 400. 777-5455.

Radical Women

Int'l Women's Day book launch for *Revolution, She Wrote*. 3pm; buffet at 5:30pm with \$10 donation. New Valencia Hall, 1908 Mission. 864-1278.

Star Classics

Presents the Society of Gay & Lesbian Composers. \$5. 5pm. Star Classics, 425 Hayes. 333-2755.

Vance Chatel

An exhibit of over 20 paintings, drawings, and prints. 9am-6pm thru 3/31. Josie's, 3583 16th St. 267-6990.

Mon

Five Photographers

Jernigan Wicker Fine Arts presents work by Lucy Gray, Gunnar Plake, Sarah Sterling, more. The Flagmaker Bldg., 161 Natoma, 2nd Floor. 512-0335.

Gay Comedy Open Mic

MC Suzi Berger, up-and-coming comic talent, performers sign up by phone. \$5. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Keith Carter

Photography exhibit. 11am-5:30pm, Tues.-Sat.; thru 4/11. Robert Koch Gallery, 49 Geary. 421-0122.

New Year, New Space

Group art show, incl. Annette Byrd, Ken Kirsch, Linda Trunzo, more. Thru 3/18. Bucheon Gallery, 540 Hayes. 863-2891.

Sarah McLachlan

and Lisa Loeb perform live in-store. Free. 12:30pm. Tower Records, 2525 Jones.

Sex Spoken Here

Readings by Jack Davis & Carol Queen. 7:30pm. Free. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0892.

Words on Dance

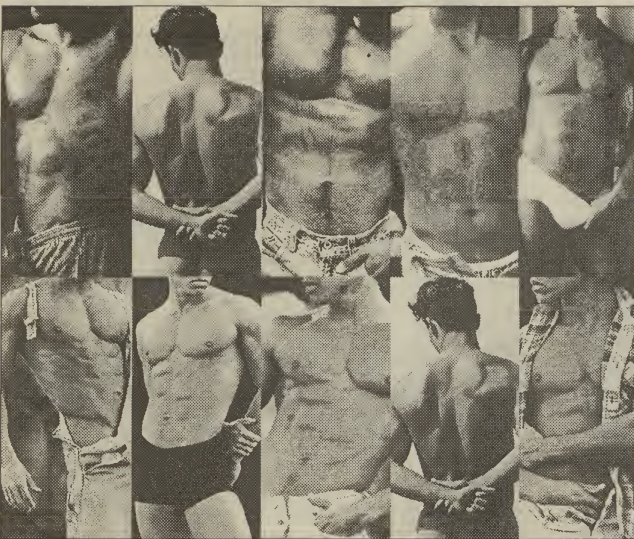
Legendary ballerinas Maria Tallchief and Evelyn Cisneros in conversation. 7pm. \$15-\$35. Yerba Buena Center, 701 Mission. 978-ARTS

Tues

2.5 Minute Ride

Solo performer Lisa Kron's monologue show. \$16. Wed.-Fri. thru 3/21. Call for times, tonight at 8:30pm. Magic Theatre, Bldg. G, Ft. Mason Center. 646-0884.

BAY TALK



Steve Lendahl

1.900.844.2227
Only 98¢ per minute to respond to ads!
Available only on touch-tone phones in the Bay Area. You must be at least 18 years old to call.

PARTING GLANCES

You: walking black dog
Me: standing at balcony door on phone.
You watched, came back, said "hi."
Couldn't get off the phone fast enough.
Want to meet you and your dog. ☎ 1101

Motorcycle escort my blk. jeep
1/30/98 7:00pm. You: motorcycle, leather jacket, white/silver helmet at BOFA.
Stopped by my jeep at Market, played eye tag thru your mirror. You turned on Dubose, should have followed. ☎ 1102

Vince-I&S from Hawaii
Castro Street, January 31, Sat. We walked from 18th to 17th. I was distracted by many responsibilities that afternoon. Wish I'd given you my number. Please call, Randy. ☎ 1103

Mitchell - Jury duty SF 1/27
I was the older man, the rebound you-lots of eye contact but you were called out first. Liked what I saw including tattoo. If you did too please call. ☎ 1104

New Years Eve-Folsom
You: tall, slim, longhair, glasses, 20ish. Us: Beards, biker jackets, leaving My Place ☎ closing time. Took you to Mack. Want more? We do! ☎ 1105

Thurs. Jan 29. Downtown
Florence! Saw each other on Kearny. We both looked. Later at Cafe Flore. Karma? You: blue coat, tan pants, beautiful eyes. Me: jeans, black jacket. Do you believe? If so, call. ☎ 1106

Brunch Pot Cafe Sat 1/10
You: Tall dark fit, Hardbutt, light shorts. Me: Blonde, slim, blue eyes. How about next Sat? ☎ 1106

Bart Embarcadero tue. 1/27 930p
Me: Leather jacket, white shirt, blue jeans, goatee, cute! Rode train to w. Oak was too shy to follow you off the train. Would like to connect definitely! ☎ 1108

Erik from Santa Cruz
I met you late Saturday night 1/24 in Lighthouse park. I was wearing a ski jacket and you liked my name. I want to see you again. ☎ 1109

Sat 1/24 at the Metro
You were sitting against the mirrored wall talking to an older friend. I was at the bar. We smiled, stared at each other, nodded, and winked. Lets meet! ☎ 1110

Starbuck's Noe+24th tues. 1/27
6:30 A.M. You: Cute guy driving red SUV. Me: Flight att in white jeep. What a smile. Lets do coffee. ☎ 1112

Sophisticated Man Marlon's
We both were with friends at the bar. You, broad shouldered, handsome, professional appearance. Me, green eyes, wily hair, full lips. I came back, missed you. We should chat, no? ☎ 1200

Cory 213 AM Kearny ☎ Sacto
You: Looking for time and #15 bus. Me: Eric, tried to help. Should have given you my number. Second chance? ☎ 1201

ISO: Kitty Glamour
Please call again. You have sparked my heart with love... And lust. Im willing to settle down and let you make a married man out of me. ☎ 1207

35 Eureka Presidents Day 3PM
Me: tall, goatee, gray/brown hair, you tall, building glasses. Our eyes meet we smiled, you got off at 20th/Eureka, would like to get together with you. Call ☎ 1401

Smith-Kline Labs 2/9/98
Met you in 490 Post elevator after your blood test. We talked going into Union Square Garage. Were you cruising me? Are you single? Should we meet for coffee? ☎ 1202

Robert Thorley from Merced
Saw you on the Inbound J Church at approximately 7pm one night. Please get in touch. John from Fresno. ☎ 1203

L Muni Mtngmry. Thu. 2/5 5:45
You: Tall, black hair, leather jacket, court shoes. Me: 5'11", brown hair, goatee, gold jacket. Too shy to say hi. Coffee? ☎ 1204

Safeway @ 16th & Potrero 2/1
Sun/day @ 5pm, check out line. You: Tedye T-shirt, glasses, cute Me: Shy Latin guy behind you. Pls call if interested. ☎ 1205

Met @ Yukon Mining
You-in LA in Jan. You were with a friend. You approached me. You said I was attractive. I ate alone, I thought you might be with a boyfriend & so I didn't think to give my number. I hope you get it now! I think you are very handsome, but didn't say so then! Will be visiting SF soon, call Ross. ☎ 1208

Gay Pride, San Diego Dance Boat
You were Bill from SF with red hair and black t-shirt. My friends and I were from Arizona. We had a nice chat but then lost contact. Lets talk again. ☎ 1209

Mon. 2/9, James W/Basset hound
Bernal Heights Park, walking our dogs. You're Asian w/glasses; I'm Caucasian, windbreaker, 2 dogs left my car lights on. Great talking with you-maybe coffee sometime? ☎ 1300

Fri-1/23 At Moby Dick Bar
You: dark jeans, flat top or crew cut with friend. Me: blue jeans, short hair with friend. Lots of smiling, then you left - I R cute! Call me. ☎ 1111

BlowBuddys and you used t-shirt
28w, 11pm. I said you were handsome, you said I was too, and I said nah. Later I asked for your name. Can't stop thinking about you Dane! Dinner? ☎ 1301

Powell St. Station 30Dec 97
You: extra handsome Eurasian, what's, piercings, boots- East end of station, we talked. Me: GWM in black; great body, great boots, lick them 4 u? ☎ 1302

Castro Station ISO: Kitty G.
I saw you again on 2-7-98. I was with my current boyfriend, couldn't say hello. But it's you I desire. You have my number, pls call. ☎ 1304

In-Bound K At 04:45 11 Feb
U: Handsome, Puerto Rican guy in black corduroy shirt. Me: African guy in leather jacket. We both off at mont. St. Lunch, and then a nap? ☎ 1305

Presidents Day In Castro
4pm. Across Midnight Sign. We passed each other, smiled, looked, stopped, waited. Me: GAM, Blk. jacket, with 2 friends. You: GWM, walked back and waited. I should have said Hi. ☎ 1400

Chris @ Eagle/Hole on Sun. 2-15
You: Incredible green eyes, cowboy hat, leather pants, tattoos. Had fun with you and your friend. I would like to see you and your great smile again. Call me, Robert. ☎ 1402

Gaylife "Manhunt" Heartbreaker
Me: bl/blu. You: first truly beautiful man to smile at me in a year! Couldn't stop smiling back then noticed you were already with someone! Was I wrong? ☎ 1404

Teus. 2-23, 7:23am Pts Bay
Point Bart you cute caucasian-Me African American I got off at Montgomery too shy to talk. Call me. ☎ 1405

A Sparkling Moment In Time
When the new inbound L train left Powell station. You waved as the train left. I should have stayed onboard. 2/19 Call me. Joseph. ☎ 1406

Sun 2/22 @ Wild Card On 17th
You: Black leather jacket, white t, s/p hair, blue of baseball cap wilder friend. Me: black leather jacket, turtleneck, s/p goatee w/2 friends-exchanged winks-let's talk! ☎ 1407

N If The 3 Orgasms
Steamworks Fri. Feb 20. I hope you'll forgive me for not coming out to talk with you. Will you give me another chance? ☎ 1408

Glen Park Bart
You: Maroon bomber. Me: With friend. You were getting cash, you followed into Bart. Lets meet. ☎ 1206

Alan At Mack Sat 2/21
We shared some fantastic kissing, among other things. Get in touch so we can continue to explore each others bides. Richard. ☎ 1409

2/21 Fri 11:00 p At Buddies
You: Tall, white, thick mustache, buff, with CHP, chest hair. Me: sorter, Asian, smooth, buff. We had a great time. Love the way we kissed and played. Meet again? ☎ 1410

Windmills-Golden Gate Park
Wed. Feb 18, 8pm. You: leather jacket, backpack, pierced right nipple, goatee, clipped chest hair, waiting for Latino buddy Let's finish what we started ☎ 1411

D. Riggins, Airline Stew
Was that you driving around SOMA? Are you back in SF? Get in touch. U can do it. ☎ 1303

Mecca Sunday Night 1/18/98
Mens restroom. Sebastian, you introduced yourself. Would like to meet again. ☎ 1107

IBR Valentine Stud Puppy
Grrrr! Hot bod with new nipples from San Diego! want more! Me: local boy in harem! find buds - call me! ☎ 1412

D. Riggins, Airline Stew.
Was that you driving in SOMA last month? Are you back? Get in touch. U can do it. ☎ 1413

My Place 2/15 'P' W/HARNESS
You sucked my cock, I played with your sexy smooth, firm, ass. I had a great time. I want to stick more with a finger in you. "L" w/Artema T-shirt. ☎ 1414

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

Seeking A Lover Man

Who I could touch, handle, rub, stroke, massage, make love to, and jack off on a regular basis. I'm a GWM, 5'1, 58", 175, brn/blu, beard, HIV. ☎ 1113

Asian Male Seeking Friends
GWM, 38, 140, 57", GYM body, smooth, dining and outdoor. Seek WM 25-38 in good shape for friends/ date and more. ☎ 1114

New Arrival In San Jose
You should be professional, sexual, affectionate and looking for LTR. I'm 5'7" 38, blond, blue, beard, outgoing and interesting. ☎ 1116

GWM ISO Hispanic Male
You should be professional, sexual, affectionate and looking for LTR. I'm 5'7" 38, blond, blue, beard, outgoing and interesting. ☎ 1116

Tired Of Bars, Baths, Buddies?
Me too! GWM, 48, 5'10" stache, hairy pees, great body. HIV. Smart, sexy. You: 35-55 physically, emotionally, intellectually available, sexually ambidextrous. Non-mainstream. EOC. Enough lonely nights me too! ☎ 1117

East Bay Poz Guy
Looking for adventures, honest, reliable, fun lover. I'm that and 4'11, 170", smooth, clean-shaven, versatile. Swim, bike, read, film, theatre, music. Operators are waiting. ☎ 1118

Tired Of Sleeping Alone
This AM 30's, 5'7", 130, seeks GM under 42 for LTR. If UR attractive, muscular and intellectual, not into club scene & enjoy foreign films/music. Pls respond. ☎ 1119

Seeking Asian Love
GWM, 43, 6'1"-185 #, brn/hazel, loving, caring, kind, sincere, honest, patient, ISO slim, clean-shaven Asian guy with similar nice qualities for loving LTR. ☎ 1120

Goodlooking GAM Seeks GWM
For LTR. Me: romantic, sincere, honest, mature, professional. 5'6" 150 #, blbr, HIV, healthy & fun. You: GWM, 30-40, good-looking/handsome, tall, successful, in good shape and very honest. Seeking LTR. ☎ 1121

Nice White Bottom Wanted 18-35
I'm a very handsome black stud looking for a relationship with a total bottom, must be white and a total bottom. 18-35 yrs of age only need apply. ☎ 1122

S. Bay Man ISO Amer. Born Asian
Filipino or Hawaiian men, 25-50. Pruple types are A+. I just turned 50. I'm 6'1" 195 # of Danish/Swedish heritage. Call and we can discuss details. ☎ 1123

Capable Of Showing Love?
Intelligent and interesting East Indian male, 32, 170#. Craves for a man who can commit to cultivating a mutual, exciting partnership, based on emotion, love and awadity. ☎ 1124

Romantic GWM
Seeks GLM soulmate. I'm 5'10", 34, brbr, 165 #. Fun loving, athletic and down to earth. Seeking a GLM to share my body and soul. ☎ 1125

Irish Stud Seeks Connection
Young, fit, fifty, artistic. 5'11" 185 #. Seeks younger, friendly, masculine, bottom men, friendship and more. ☎ 1126

Donde Estas?
Ambitious man, 33, seeks a Latino companion, my masculine, para toda la vida. So, hard working, H.I.V., y des-esperadamente por tu amor. Soy 5'10", 175 #, Negro, Piensan ti. ☎ 1210

Handsome Muscular Italian
GWM, 6'2", 185 #, 38, into fitness, travel, romance and quiet times seeks another HIV-, extremely well-hung man for monogamous relationship. ☎ 1211

Are You Broad Minded?
Caribbean gay male looking for guys into liberal politics, affirmative action, music from Salta to Classic. Good movies and sense of humor. You could be any race. I am 5'3 1/2 and very sensual. ☎ 1212

40s HIV+ Seeks GB or GWM
Im looking for compatible man for dating, romance, companionship, LTC. Im 6' 175#, affectionate, mostly bottom, enjoy travel, museums, friends, humor, etc. ☎ 1213

ISO Two Hot Latin Lovers
You must be 18-28, 5'8", 9 in. or more, swimmers built, horny. Im GWM, 32, 5'6", 155 #, br/blu, horny. ☎ 1214

High Quality GAM
5'8", 140 #, professional, honest and caring. Seeking other quality gay en for movies, theatre, travel, quiet times and possible LTR. ☎ 1215

Boy Holes Frenched
Mindless blow jobs performed. Dark blond hair, perfect body, 5'10", late thirties fun-loving and real, gentle, honest, passionate, cute. ☎ 1216

Very Handsome All-American GM
36, Athletic/muscular build, 6' 180 #, straight acting, good sense of humor, honest HIV-. Seeking good looking, masculine GAM 18-28, nice body and similar characteristics for friendship/ Dating. ☎ 1217

HIV+ Eastbay Latin Top Wanted
HIV+ bottom, 35, 6', 185 #. Blondish, blue, cute-pie seeks snuggle buddy, Capricorn on Virgo sunsign. ☎ 1218

HIV Latin W/boat Wanted
HIV+ bottom, blurb, 6', 185 #, 35, seeks divorced sailor with cigar and kids. Eastbay preferred. I live in the Pittsburg/ Concord area. ☎ 1219

Man Seeks Manmate

Hello, my name is Ron. I seek a mate who desires to be with and share intimate company with an older guy. LTR. Call for particulars. No one need apply beyond the age of 26. ☎ 1220

End Of The World.
Wake Up. What time is it? Unconventional GWM, seeks GM for love/mate. 38, 6' 177 #, slim w/goatee. Love mate 34ish to 42ish, slim, avg., looks, get ready, early morning love. ☎ 1221

Conscious Contact Heart&Soul
GWM, 48, 6', 190 #, Red Irish, grad student. Loving, aware, spiritual, funny. S. friends for movies, swimming, steam, mutual massage, & new adventures. Bodies are great. Souls are better. Bill W. friends welcome. ☎ 1225

Actual Nice (Mostly) Guy
Who likes music, outdoors, travel, reading, conversation, humor. 6' 170 #, 40, brn/gym, good shape (42), u.c. I'm prof., grown-up articulate & some say gdlyk. Looking for companionship & more, with complementary guy. ☎ 1222

New to Bay Area/Non scene
In shape GWM, 35, bl/blu, seeks GAM for friendship, fun, LTR, possible. Non smoker a plus. ☎ 1223

Seeking Buddy
6' 175 #, brbr, hairy, athletic, attractive, healthy HIV-, 42, bottom seeks younger inexperienced top buddy for encounters. Be honest, caring, discreet, and straight acting. ☎ 1224

Bohemian Aristocrat, 57, 150 #
Soulful man who feels fathomlessly, thinks kinkily, tastes tastefully, sees sensibly, and is fragrant free. Non-Anglo preferred. ☎ 1225

Handsome Young Boy Needs Dad
I can't find you here in Arizona. Me: Hispanic, 5'7" 130 #, bottom, HIV-. Great personality. You: 30-45, attractive, financially secure & stable. GWM, looking for LTR. ☎ 1226

Full Of Energy
Packed to the brim with talent, young man seeks gentlemen for secret rendezvous and special times. Into spirituality. ☎ 1227

Are You Bottom Enough???
To handle this top, hairy, tattoo's man? Im 39 y/o, 6'2", 195 #, masculine & muscular, hung 8", passionate, who loves puns for hours. You: insatiable, intense, in-shape, masculine, 25-40. ☎ 1228

Spread'em On My Face
GWM, 52, ISO 81 or married guy under 40y.o. You need oral service fore and aft. Discreet. HIV-, E. Bay, clean and sweaty. ☎ 1229

ISO Group Sex
ISO young well hung guys to do. I love to be a cumdump. Im 20-45, 150, br/hazel, versatile bottom. ☎ 1230

Hiv+ Seeking Romance/Friendship
Goodlooking GWM, 6', 220 #, 35y.o, healthy mind and body, workout, kink, travel, love the outdoors. Be honest, sweet and adventurous. Any race. ☎ 1306

Bottom Daddy
Muscular, masculine dad, 6', 190 #, 45, seeking dominant dads or sons. Let me wrap my hot lips, tight ass around your hard dick and ride bareback. ☎ 1307

Romantic Asian Lover
Smooth skin, slender, cute brown butt, nice body, medium swimmer build. You: GWM, clean shaven, stable, fit, healthy, oral, Dutch + not into scene, possible relationship. NS, ND, No rice queens. ☎ 1308

Seeking A Romantic Lover
GAM, Filipino, over 30, height and weight proportionate. Romantic, love to cuddle, kiss and romance. Seeks GWM, with the same quality interests. Must be understanding and relationship oriented. Please call if apply to you. ☎ 1309

Sexy Exotic Asian ISO White
Goodlooking, sexy Asian, 25.5'10", 150 #. ISO white to 35 for dating, possibly LTR. Me: nice heart, personality, body. Bisexual welcome. ☎ 1310

I Want You!!!
Wanted: One GWM, bottom, 48-55 yrs, who wants more than one night sexual healing. Offered: One GWM, top, late 40's, IL drinker/smoker, HIV- ISO LTR so beards pls. I'm affectionate and communicative. ☎ 1311

New Years Eve 1999
Would like to have a LTR by then, if not friends will do. I'm Latin, 26, 5'7", 165 #, stocky, muscular body student. Seeking Latins or whites under 40, N/S. ☎ 1312

HIV+ Hispanic Seeks BM
GWM, 27 years old, 5'10", 155 #, HIV+, bottom, is seeking for a black male, HIV+, top, in SF. ☎ 1313

Gay White Male Seeks Everyone
Who is alive, not dead, any race at all, 18 to middle age, has mind and feelings. Yours truly is 50 y.o & All of above ☎ 1314

Forget HOW BIG (or small)
Your rock hard dick is. All my cock sucking skill concentrates on the important thing: maximizing your load. Try it, we'll let it! Regular service available. ☎ 1315

This Is A Cuckucking Ad
Because I need further time tuning toward striking gold at next summer Olympics. Already so good my clients regularly repeat. Bets you will too! ☎ 1316

Wishing For Dad
GAM, cute, NS, honest, affectionate, seeks GWM, straight acting, loving. Dad 40-60, bearded, goatee, moustache. Enjoy movies, theater, etc. son has lot of things to offer, take care you needs possible LTR. ☎ 1421

Kiss, Cuddle, Torture?

GWM, 31, 6', 195 #, HIV-. Dark hair, half beard, fur, weight just right. Sometimes kinky (vers). Seeking similar for ongoing fun. Musts: Kissing, facial fur. Must nots: smoking. ☎ 1420

Devoted Btm Boy
Seeks worthy top under 40, who enjoys being adored. Latin/Mediterranean and smokers a +. 30 y.o, boy 5'10", 150 #, blnd/blu, not into humiliation or pain. ☎ 1317

Iconoclastic, Imaginative
Individualism sought by professional Indian GM, 31, for unaffected, pleasant conversations, leading to friendship, maybe more. ☎ 1318

Dad Needs Son For LTR
GWM, 6', 185 #, 56, HIV-, br/blu, moustache, smart, F/P/G/A, seeks GWM, 30s, to early 40s, slim to med. build who likes home life, movies and long walks. ☎ 1319

What's Not To Love?
HIV+ GWM mostly bottom. Into music, food, concerts. I'm 5'10", 140 #, honest, articulate, reciprocal, employed, longhair and goatee. If you're still reeking call and we'll talk about you. ☎ 1320

Ready For Ownership?
Daddy/Master: WM, 50's, 6', 170 #, fit intelligent, silver fox, stable, successful urbane. You/slave: lean, smooth or shaven, submissive, obedient, need direction and security. Sane, S/M, B/D, shavings, WS. ☎ 1321

Older Seeking Younger For Real
Middle aged, slim, non-stereotype, not sugar-daddy. Enjoy kiking, humor, hot sex, warm intimacy, whatever! Seek 20-35, genuine, open, intriguing... For equal, loving, mutually-supportive relationship, preferably open. ☎ 1322

East Bay Men Of Color
Sought by mature GWM to enjoy our romantic sides whether in front of the fireplace or in LTR. Prefer under 40, sensual, kisser, bottom, and 5'9" or shorter, and adventurous ☎ 1323

Seeking Asian Tops!
R U out there? I'm 42y.o, 6'2", 195 #, affectionate, healthy HIV+, mostly bottom, GWM who loves to cuddle, kiss and suck. Seeking LTR/lover, or fuck buddy. You should be over 25 y.o, smooth, intelligent, masculine and honest. ☎ 1324

Sleepless In Seattle
GWM 39, 6', 240 #, attractive, sensitive, sincere, seeks HIV-, nonsmoking, sincere, stocky or heavy set bottom GM for a monogamous LTR. Would love to move to the Bay Area for the right man. ☎ 1325

Hunky Handsome Loving Package
Top quality GWM wants passionate relationship and possible LTR. I'm 6'2", 190 #, 40s, 45's, 15", 33", w very muscular. I'm Italian. I'm gay. I'm hot, soulful, loyal, sincere, exclusive, talented, professional, healthy as a horse. HIV+ non progressor, I'm sexually charged from puppy to leather. Looking for similar 35-45 y.o. GWM who is grounded, sensitive, successful, secure, who has experienced and wants a grade A relationship, full of mental, emotional exploration with new limits. A man to look me in the heart, de for my body, and kiss my soul. Prefer facial hair. Serious, stable, secure men only. Please call. ☎ 1326

Seeking Mr. Right!
GWM 23, 5'7", 135 #, B* cut, new to SF. Im looking to start a friendship, more. I may be Mexican/Black +, versatile. Willing to meet anybody. Are you ready? I am. ☎ 1415

Wanted: Monogamous Lover
Me: Romantic, responsible thoughtful, witty, secretly shy, 6', 250 #, NS, HIV- attorney, 49. Interests: Animals, ballet, opera, concerts, gym, movies. You: Prefer active, affectionate, gentle, thin, NS, HIV-. ☎ 1416

Big Shoes Big Gloves
Former athlete loves all sports; gourmet cook; artist; enjoys museums, dining out, travel, theatre, movies; sarcastic humor; sentimental; call for dating & maybe more. 6'8", 300 #, 40 GWM. ☎ 1417

Alameda GWM Professional
6', 34, 210 #, HIV interests: theater, movies, travel, hiking, cooking. Looking for some same sexual orientation, possibly gay life from another (not jock) personality. ☎ 1418

Goodlooking Greek/Latino
27, 6', light body, goatee, looking to date 20-40 or old white body. Films, hiking, hot sex... ☎ 1419

Fun Musician Writer
Warm-hearted, Irish Italian, 50, 5'11", 190 #, young-looking, sporty, seeks decent, fit versatile, masculine men, 28-49, friendship, LTR. ☎ 1470

All Around Nice Guy Seeks Same
Goodlooking guy, 5', 150, ISO, goatee, 43, HIV+ (healthy), n-smoker, loves music (jazz, r/b, country), films, books, working out. Looking for goodlooking, humorous, honest man, 30-45 in the city. ☎ 1471

Sunnyvale Looking For The One
81k, male 38, 5'8", 175 #. Body builder type, nice looking, seeking versatile, affectionate NS, ND, any race, GAM, Asian/Latino's a +, age 25 to 40 yrs old. ☎ 1422

HIV+ Latin Top ISO Hot Lover WM
Healthy and straight acting, I'm always horny. (32) You: older, masculine, in shape, and looking for someone to spoil. Possible LTR. ☎ 1423

Want To Date:
GWM, 28, 5'9", bl/blu, wide variety of interests and out of town, really bottom. Seeking adrevent top for dating. I am new to Bay Area, emotionally and financially secure. Age, race, open. Please be height/weight proportionate and have the mind set of dating with the goal of LTR. ☎ 1423

Goodlooking, Secure GWM
41, 5'7", brnr, 135. Healthy HIV+. Seeking versatile GWM 35-50, for dating, poss. LTR. No drugs, bullshit. ☎ 1423

I Keep Looking...
For someone older, taller & top. Blue collar & masculine. I am 5'7", 140#, 33yo, sensual, passionate & bright. Do you keep looking too? Need we look anymore? ☎ 1426

Looking For A Son
I never had, for friendship, camping, hiking, by Wm 5'6", 140#, active 60s. Like healthy/rubbery, "boudie" to have fun, LTR desired Asian+. ☎ 1427

Attractive Latino
Goodlooking Latino 32yo dark hair, brown eyes, goatee, like to go to movies, dinner, hiking, tennis, travel, looking for GWM between 25-37 y/o for friendship or more. Just call. ☎ 1428

SEEKING ADVENTURE

Hot Piece Of Ass To Fuck
If you're thin and have a hard, defined physique and love to get fucked, then this 6'1", 190 #, 44yo, fit, muscular guy, would love to provide you with hours of hot, steamy pleasure! ☎ 1127

Scared GUY Femme
ISO gentle loving older top to bring out the slutty pussy in me. 42, 5'6", blonde requires STD-free safety before I let you fuck me. ☎ 1128

Black Built Big Cocked Bro's
Wanted by straight living & looking 35 y/o, long-haired, sexy smooth, 5'8" 150#, 30" waist 71/2x5" cut. Trimmed, bikini tan-line, I will eagerly serve you. ☎ 1129

Dom Top Seeks Insatiable Bottom
Attr. 39yo, top 5'10", 170#, hairy chest strong arms & legs. Wants to work over Cauc, Asian, Latino, pig bottom under 38 smooth a+. 8e horny, hungry, ready! ☎ 1130

Why Waste Time Cruising...
When you could be with me? Tall, masculine, casual, 45, in shape, gym/NS, healthy pop, balding/buzz, hung, talented model, video's, ISO blowbuddies. Polk area +. ☎ 1131

Here Is My Fantasy:
I lay down, naked, you walk in (door unlocked) you greedy my man hole & fuck me real good. I prefer well hung & black guys. ☎ 1132

GWM HIV- 5'2" 54yrs.
7" nice ball's has a fantasy about eclectic toys or gadgets around my balls or tight hairy little ass. I'm ready & willing & serious. Also I like sucking big cock. Age, race, unimportant, experience is. Let's connect soon. ☎ 1133

Wanted: bottoms by Hot Top
GWM 31yrs, 160#, 5'11" brnr seeks guys 25-40, thin or muscular, who like to suck and get fucked. ☎ 1134

Bottom Boy Wanted 18-35 Only
Me: Horse hung black stud, looking for a nice white bottom must like it large and a hard pump. No exceptions no back talk, just take it hard! ☎ 1135

GAM Seeks Horny GWM
5'7", 130#, 35yrs, needs fit GWM for adventure. Tell me yours, NOW! ☎ 1136

Total Service Bottom
For hot mass, GWM, masc, 5'9", 163#, smooth butt, hot mouth, deep throat to serve you. ☎ 1137

GAM Seeking Bears
HIV- 31yo 5'6", 120#, professional for sincere GWM. Enjoy hairy male 35-55 for dating or more. ☎ 1138

Ride My Sweet Ass
Hot, passionate & sensual bottom, sometimes versatile SGWM, brnr/hl, 5'11", 175#, 7" 50, HIV+, workout. You: like passionate kissing, tit play, giving & receiving head, eating ass, long gentle fucking, age, race, unimportant. No drugs, or heavy drinking. Safe sex. I have been given a 10 in sex recently. Not looking for a LTR. Daytime or evening, 3 ways ok. ☎ 1139

Just shut-up and ride!
WM, 33, 5'10", 200#, b/blb muscle hunk, wants opek-looking, masculine men to pump or get pumped. Also love to get massaged & jerked off. ☎ 1140

Are you Bottom Enough???
To handle this top, hairy, taton man? Im 39 y/o, 6'2", 195#, masculine & muscular, hung 8", passionate, who loves pumping for hours. You: insatiable, intense, in-shape, masculine, 25-40. ☎ 1128

Spread'em On My Face
GWM, 52, ISO, 8i or married guy under 40 y/o. You need oral service fore, n, after. Discreet, HIV-, E, 8ay, clean and sweet. ☎ 1229

ISO Group Sex
ISO young well hung guys to do. I love to be a cumdum. Im 30, 5'6", 150#, br/hl, versatile. ☎ 1230

Love It Want It Need It!
GWM, 47, 165#, 5'8", masc, submissive bottom, goodlooking, healthy HIV+. ISO regular sex buddies to fuck my hot, tight ass, safe/long. Prefer WM or BM, 35-55, fit, masc, hot. ☎ 1231

DOM Older seeks SUB Younger
For uninhibited sex scene. Im early 70's and atr. You are 18-40, submissive and sexy. Daddy-son, master-slave, just good friends scenes explored. ☎ 1232

Seeking Fuck Buddys
Goodlooking Italian guy 32, goodshape seeking two young hot guys for three way action. I have brnr 5'10", 170#. Clean cut. You are both goodlooking and well hung!! Lets have fun, call... ☎ 1233

I Suck Real Cowboys & Aussies
Slim, well hung guys kick back for slow, sensual blow jobs on priv, basement massage table. No recip. ☎ 1234

Top Man Seeks Hot Young Head
WM, 40s, HIV- very masculine in shape dominant top seeks submissive, HIV- boy under 30 with cum hungry deep throat into older men for long sessions at your SF place. ☎ 1235

Wanted Macho Hispanics
Goodlooking GWM, 40, 195#, and 6' tall, also HIV+, seeks all Latin studs for good sex. You must be young 18-30, food looking, and ready to have a good time. Leave you ☎ 1236

Seeking Shorter Studs
GWM, young 40, 5'9", 155#, HIV-, balding, stach, in shape, is hot for in shape 5'5"-5'9" tops. Lets play! ☎ 1237

Master ISO Slave
GWM seeks GWM for full time service. Be muscular and totally submissive, to age 45. ☎ 1238

Hairy And Well Built Man
Handsome and mostly top, wants to meet aggressive, hairy, mostly bottom man, wearing something tight and brief. Dard blond, clean shaven, 5'10", 175#, gr-garious, love to laugh. Lets play...Hard. ☎ 1239

5 Well Endowed Black Men!!!
That's my fantasy, to be gang banged by 5 blackmen, me: 5'8", 145# hairy chest, stache, otee. I am your sex slave for the night. ☎ 1240

South Bay Redhead Seeks GBM
GWM, 6', 175# 36, masculine, hairy chest, stache, seeks San Jose area GBM, top for sexual encounters. Tall and/or hung, a+. ☎ 1241

Potrero Hillbilly Seeks Filipino
Asian, Vietnamese U/S top. Looks age unimportant. VIA attitude a+. All you can drink in exchange for all I can recycle. Call now!! ☎ 1242

Mutual Oral Pleasure
GWM, 45 y/o, HIV+, 5'10" 150, ruggedly handsome, healthy, work out, great kisser, seeks men (30-50 ht. wt. prop.) for mutual oral pleasures and friendship. ☎ 1243

Wanted: Older Man Of Color
Cute, boush, WM, 37, 5'7", 135, oral, bottom, versatile, seeks safe sexual fun with African American or Latin man. Looks, unimportant, uncut a+. ☎ 1244

Bigger
Asian men sought by black, handsome caucasian 40, fit, friendly, 160#, natural built preferred. Hot, discreet, very playful, plenty of time. ☎ 1246

Fucked Tops
wanted for group action. Call with stats. ☎ 1247

2 French GWM 28-32 Years Old
In SF wanted American GWM 25/35 for go out and speak English. ☎ 1248

Prostate Massage
GWM seeks GM who enjoys having his inner organ rubbed, stroked, and massaged. Im 51, 5'8", 175, brn/blu, beard, HIV-. ☎ 1249

Spanking Fantasies
Light and sensual to heavy. Novices welcome. Sex optional but preferred. Me: atr, cauc, GWM, 48, 6'5", 250#, large husky build, brown hair/mustache, hairy chest & stomach. You: atrac. G(white, asian, latin), slim, nose buds. ☎ 1327

Hairy Ass Bisex Iranian Man
Goodlooking gr/ytes, goate, muscular, huge nipples looking for top into the art of stretching a virgin ass. ☎ 1328

Newly Single Bottom
Attractive, masculine, GWM, 32, 5'6", 145#. I need to suck some dick. Long haired, Haight St. whiter guys desired. Under 35. Great head, tight ass. ☎ 1329

Young Men
WM, 27, 6'1", 170#. Goodlooking, gentle, athletic, muscular, top HIV-, seeks cute, slim, smooth, younger guys for tender kissing, fucking. White. Asian, boys a+. Be HIV-, safe. ☎ 1330

Suck Off And More
My tongue in your slit hole. Your bladder full of piss. Your balls full of protein. Asians & Latins especially. Same daylight call back. ☎ 1429

Sanoma County Oral Virtuoso
For slender-medium guys, 18-35, regular, daytime, no reciprocation expected. I'm middle age, attractive, healthy, relaxed, generous. Initially meet somplace public, no obligations. Low domination bite, smooth boy-type. ☎ 1331

Fellatio, Effluage, And Petrissage (massage)
in my home wanted by voluptuous European 56. I have table, aromatherapy, candlelight, bells, chimes, silk sheets and satyrasis. ☎ 1332

Oakland Guy
WM, 33, HIV+, healthy, seeks other positive guys for mutual j/o and oral. Not into the club scene, so we can party at my place. Shaved a+. ☎ 1333

Bear Boy Sks Big Bear Meat
37-62, 195, hot bottom ready for well hung, horny tops who enjoy filling a hungry bottom. All well hung welcome. ☎ 1334

L, XL, or XXXL Meat?
37-62, 195, hot bottom ready for all to good use. Deep throat and hungry bubble butt await hung men. Hot bottom serves all hung. ☎ 1335

Boyfriend/Hung Top HIV Wanted
Me: 40, 6'3", 185#, br/mgm, mustache, lightly hairy, bottom, HIV+, handsome, horny, affectionate, (650) area. You: top man, 35-45, handsome, height/weight proportionate, well hung, hairy, uncut ok, smoker ok, honest and sincere a must. You won't be sorry. ☎ 1336

Seeking Playmate Top
For GWM, hairy, football build, into all ass play and kink, top requested to be 50 or younger, experienced preferred, well endowed, smooth, light to no hair. Playroom and leather a plus. Gay White, Black or Latino males, please respond. ☎ 1337

Hot Leatherboy/Urinal in Top Bod
ISO: Lean total leather top/bulldog for training, w/ those downs, urinal duty, diaper discipline, suckin/spitin/stapin/bondage/hoods, public scenes, denigration, humiliation, control. Dungeon/playroom, LTR a big plus Sir! ☎ 1338

How Much More Can You Shoot
Than you ever shot before? Just lemme on down on your nice hard meat and we'll see how much more you can shoot. I remain stain free; I swallow the evidence! ☎ 1339

Strict Disciplinarian Needed
By Asian 51yo, 5'7", 145#, healthy, trim. Needs regular discipline, spina, prolonged TT.U 8 W/H 35-60 yo, very clean trim, discreet. I will obey! Thank you Sir! ☎ 1340

Seeking Lowbuddy Bottoms/Tops
In groups or single HIV- Santa Rosa, Sebastopol, Sanoma co, first time, mature married, daytime, your place, plenty of liquid aroma. Jocks, pits, holes, etc. ☎ 1341

Pussy Boy Wanted
8y hot dad, 49, in shape, 6', 195#, 46" chest, 15" arms, 32" w, 7 1/2. Time to purr and twitch. ☎ 1342

Looking For Young Sex Partner
27 VGL GWM, 5'10", 165#, blk/br, gym-toned, seeks 20-30 yo, smooth, must be VGL, & in good shape. U do my fantasies, I do yours. ☎ 1343

Wanted: Big Hairy Firm Butt
Well built aggressive pig, hang big, needs wellbuilt WM (205-305) with hairy butt to eat and fuck. ☎ 1340

Discreet Bi-WM
Handsome, 45, seeks other Bi-WMs, fit, 25-40, first times ok, married ok, for very discreet encounters. Professional men A+. San Mateo, No others need answer. ☎ 1431

White Pussy Boy!!!
Needs well endowed black man for regular sucking & fucking. Me: 5'8", 145, hairy chest, chaste. You: big dick for white pussy. ☎ 1433

ISO Expert Cocksucker
GWM, top, brn, htl, 180, 5'11", smooth, nice pouch. ISO: White or Latin expert deep throat cocksucker/wilczellent gay control, to take my load, extended servicing clean, serious. ☎ 1434

Older Men Wanted
GWM, HIV-, 110#, 5'2", stache, 55yo, with very hot hairy tight little ass, big fingers, hands or cocks. Also have 7" cock and nice ball's that need be stretched hard. Please be adventurous & horny. ☎ 1435

Wanted GAM
To work my tight little ass slow and sensual & deep. Most guy's hands are to big and can't get in. I need to get it front and rear at the same time. I'm 55yr, 5'2", 115#, stache, HIV-, GWM. You must like F, F, CBT, and kinky procedures. I need it all 3 ways OK!! ☎ 1436

Hung Tops-Fuck This
Cute GWM, 5'8", 145#, tight deep fresh hole needs pounding by big fat dick (slightly ruff ok). U cute, muscular, 9" (or XX thick), with stamina, 3 ways ok, out. ☎ 1437

ISO Pot LeatherDad
Boy, handsome, 5'7", 135#, smooth, muscular swimmer, seeks 40-50, clean, muscular, hairy butt-cheeked Dad with restraints and mild flogger to party all night for multiple servises. ☎ 1438

Hot Latino Guy Like's To Suck
And get fucked, Redwood City Area under 45, please call. ☎ 1439

ISO River Area Handball Buddy
Insatiable bottom masculine outdoor guy gives it up to expert top who knows muncant. Be experienced safe, sane, intelligent, HIV neg. UB2. ☎ 1440

A Hole You Can Use
Masc, GBM, slim, trim, 38, 5'11", 150#, goatee, uninhibited, with a hole you can use your way. Buddy fucks or on 1. You, HWI prop. & you're ready to fuck now. ☎ 1441

Always Horny? Get Sucked!
Well-hung, trim cauc, guys kick back for slow sensual blow jobs. Hot mouth & tongue takes up big loads, multiple loads A+. ☎ 1442

Om Onna My House
Escape roommates, wives, girlfriends. Slim, well-hung cauc. studs kick back for sensual blow job on my private, secluded massage table. Hot mouth takes ur load. ☎ 1443

Ever Wish You Had 3 Good...
Buddies to fuck around with. Sexual affiliation group forming. Qualifications include fetishes, looks, and being truly open-minded. Call for a phone interview. ☎ 1444

Boot Pigs Boot Worship
Men into boots sought for hot private boot worship parties. Boot boys, boot pigs, boot masters. All welcome. ☎ 1445

Dad Train This Pussy Boy
To be your sex slave. Boy 38, GWM, 5'7", 140#, shaved head, mustache, goatee and tattoos. ☎ 1446

Strip Search
Slender plain cloths amateur cop wants to order you around if you are masculine with a lean build and under 40. I'm 41 with a goatee and a nicely chiseled 7 inch. ☎ 1447

Hot XX-Hung Blonde Top
Seeks xx-hung smooth bottoms. I'll give you A+ head, then use your dicks as a Kickstart & fuck you night!! ☎ 1448

Just Shut-Up And Ride!
WM, 33, 5'10", 200#, B/blb, muscle hunk (48", 33", 18") wants good-looking masculine men to pump, or get pumped, full of squirt, anytime. ☎ 1449

Endless Oral
Masculine GWM, 45, 6'185#, healthy pop, balding/buzz, htl, proportionate, gym, hung, videos. ISO similar for mutual expert oral. You: thin to muscular, NS, Polk area a+. ☎ 1450

Hung Oakland Black Man 45
Enjoys receiving an expert bj often. Please no indirect phone's, beads or goatees, curious novices. Sincere, available, masculine experts only. All races. Duo/Duo essential. ☎ 1451

Hot Duo Seek Third Sex Buddy
Hung top, hungry bottom seeking hung top to versatile. US: 30s, goodlooking in-shape white studs. UB: hung bud, decent shape, ready 2 play. ☎ 1452

Asways Horny? Get Sucked!
Slim, well-hung cauc, guys kick back for slow sensual blow jobs on my secluded massage table. Hot mouth sucks ur load. Blue-eyed brunettes A+. ☎ 1453

Black Men Of Marin City
If you need love, affection and sex, guide me to your city. I am GWM, obedient bottom that needs to be dominated and shared by other blackmen. ☎ 1454

Got A Hot Ass
GWM 5'11", 170, HIV-, N/S,N/D, like suck cock and get fucked like 7" to suck. Age & race unimportant. Videos to watch. Call. ☎ 1432

Oral SVC For Asian Men
SF, GWM, 45, 6'1", 190#, handsome, delivers complete oral service to trim, mature, masculine Asian men. HIV-. No reciprocation required. ☎ 1455

FETISHES

Hoods, Ski-Masks, Derby Dudes
S. Bay skinhead in a derby jacket, Ben Davis, gives blow jobs outdoors, job sites, chotos, ex-cons, blue collar dudes. Discreet & clean. ☎ 1441

Hotguywtoeringskincfeetbuddy
Lifelong craving for reciprocal foot licking, smelling, caressing, naked body close-ups, J/O, fantasies. Dirty soles ok. Uninhibited. E.8. masculine, tan, goodlooking GWM, 5'9", 140#, HIV-, sks foot buddy and friend. ☎ 1142

Russian River Exhibitionists
18-30. Strip, strut & flex for hot WM. 42, bodybuilder, discreet. ☎ 1143

Your sling or Dungeon?
Me in it, looking for imaginative buttplay and humiliation fantasies, no pain, open for nasty fun. Me: 30's, goodlooking, you same, under 45. ☎ 1144

Huge Tits
Stick out like rock hard dicks on my pumped chest. Muscular, masculine guy seeks other well-built guys with big nipples for mutual tit service and torture. ☎ 1145

Ass Sucker for Bottoms
Love to rim and suck your hole, before and after you get fucked. Have hot talented mouth. ☎ 1146

Goodlooking Couple
Need ongoing spiritual revelation ISO other goodlooking couples for dinner, movies, just having out and ??? We are late 30s GWM in shape, straight acting/looking for new friends & fun. Let's go skiing! ☎ 1147

Daddies N2 FF W Facial Hair
Need ongoing spiritual revelation w/veil, versatile top. GWM/GWM, HIV+, N2 diids, TT, FF, Me: GWM, 6'1", 200#, sht, sht hair and goatee. Need soulmate. ☎ 1250

Hairy Men Get Me Hot. Real Hot
Cum 2 SoCal & I'll ream & cream UR juicy, hot throat & butt all wknd. Down & dirty, sweaty, cumy, N8B man stuff. VGL hry. XUSN WM, brnzett, 47, Irish (007SC type), 6', 160#, U: cumdumping. Up 4 it? Cum down. ☎ 1251

Hairy Daddy Bear Will Work Balls
Hairy daddy bear 50, 5'11", 220#, 6' 12" UC, very hairy, looking for boy balls to manipulate to extasy. You must enjoy working foreskin. ☎ 1252

ISO The Feminine Touch
Masculine LM 42, 6', 155#, moderately hry. ISO younger effeminate looking/acting man to give me slow sensual oral pleasure all over, no SM, BD, or pain. ☎ 1253

Bad Spankings For Bad Boys
By muscular top. Novices ok. Limits respected & expanded. If you're reading this ad, you know you need it! Over my knee-now! All calls returned. ☎ 1254

Rimseat Service For Raunch Top
Masculine, very muscular, smooth, nasty, bottom seeks scapips top (top & under 45 only) for intense toilet training & service. ☎ 1344

Whack It!!!
Mature daddy seeks younger (that's most anyone) for JO. Interested in having a nice time with a pleasant man. Affectionate-fun-relaxed. ☎ 1345

2 Drag Queens Wanted 1st Time
2 drag queens wanted! First time be: Bi-Hm, 50-seeks drag-queens, black nylons, & phone suck, fuck sessions. ☎ 1346

Seeks Nipple Pig For Hot Fun
GWM, 43, HIV+, smoker, 5'10", 190#, br/br, goatee, seeks serious nipple pig for mutual action-suck, pump, weights, the bigger the better. Cowboy boots & blond hair a+. 8e sincere. ☎ 1347

Versatile Rugged Leather Pig
Seeks rugged rockhard beefy, big dick muscle buddies for intense, nasty, raunchy, rough sweaty sex! ☎ 1461

Bondage For Bodybuilders
WM, late 40's, wants to see your muscles flex and strain as I tie you up and play with your pecs, cock, balls, until you cum! ☎ 1349

Raw Fuck/Fist Top/Vers. Wanted
By this masculine, handsome WM: Me: 36, 5'9", 170#, versatile. I'm looking for regular sessions with a fit, smooth armed top, 18-35, Asians A+. ☎ 1456

Expert Dethroat Wanted
Well endowed, uncut 8M wants male who can take it all. Looks, age and race unimportant. Just be exceptionally talented and live in city. Suck and swallow A+, your place. ☎ 1457

Devoted Nutsuckers
Suck and tongue my smooth pair. Butt rimmers welcome too. Reward: Huge meal. Your app. looks unimportant, but dedication to ball/ass worship is. ☎ 1458

Here Ye, Mountain Bears & Pigs
Hungry-n-beefy GWM/GWM HIV+, N2, T+, T, diids, FF, and bondage. Levi/Leather. Me: GWM, 205#, 6'1", versatile top. Lets slip & slide, sturpees, candle!!! ☎ 1459

Hot Guy W/Toe Ring Sks Foot Buddy
Masculine, tan, goodlooking East Bay GWM, 5'8", 140#, HIV-, craves reciprocal foot licking, smelling, caressing, massaging, naked body closeness, safe J/O fantasies. Light odor, toughened soles ok. Further friendship welcomed. ☎ 1460

Tool Time W/Husky Bears & Pigs
Need versatile top Mr. Fit to stretch my limitations. Besty HIV+ GWM/GWM, N2, T+, T, FF, diids, Levi/Leather. Me: GWM, 205#, 6'1", goatee, S/P hair. Spank me!!! ☎ 1462

Seeking Heavy SM/Loving LTR
Very masculine, goodlooking, serious, employed, 5'7", 155#, 43yo, GWM craves contracted, no-bulldish, severe SM ownership/breaking by aggressive, 40s, harded, hardcore, leather/rubber/bondage extremist whipsmaster, in loving LTR. Ex-military +++. ☎ 1463

Nellie Top
Tall GWM 50, HIV-, S/P hair, nr 88, smoker, average cut tool, looking for GWM slave for face cleaning. Drinks/aromas ok. ☎ 1464

Need Hot Young Butt To Slap
27yo VGL GWM HIV-, gym-toned seeks 20-30, open minded sex partner who likes to get spanked. Must be VGL, in-shape, smooth preferred. HIV-. 8e open minded. ☎ 1465

Nasty Imaginations
Tops & Bottoms, 18-45, into butt play, w/s to extreme raunch, 1st times, alone or group, come play with couple, one versatile & one total pig bottom. ☎ 1466

Your Feet My Face
Goodlooking, masculine guy wants to worship your feet with my hands and mouth. Kick back while I make you and your feet feel good. Curious? All welcome. ☎ 1467

Mutual Bondage Practice/Play
Rope, constraints, optional mild CBT. Not seeking sex, heavy scene, S/M. Clean, no drugs. Muscular, agile man prefers same. WM, 51, 5'8", 170#, have OK-lad residence, can travel. ☎ 1468

COUPLES

Man To Man; Wife To Watch Etc
This attractive Bi-sexual couple M/F, requires a virile, trim man for a three-sum. Married man ok. ☎ 1348

Who Says There Is A Crowd?
Attractive, secure, GWC, 37, 6', 155#. Top, 39, 5'8", 140#, versatile ISO GWM or GW couples 30-50 in shape and hung, for regular hot safe sexual adventures. Be ready to play fast and hard... ☎ 1469

OTHER

Whitmanesque Buddy Sought
Genuine-henry, spiritual GWM seeks others for comradeship, intimacy, massage exchange, J/O, and buddy cuddling. No needy codependents, please. Just warm friendly guys. ☎ 1148

BAR TALK PERSONALS ARE FREE!

CATEGORY

- Parting Glances ☐
Seeking Relationship ☐
Seeking Adventure ☐
Lesbian ☐
Fetishes ☐
Couples ☐
Others ☐

Headline, 30 characters maximum

Write the rest of your ad here, 30 words maximum

blue period

<http://www.blue-period.com>



Out There

◀ page 34

loud and shrill.

Juanita was afraid it would be dangerous riding **our tottering public transport system** in drag. Overcoming her fears, she and her group then proceeded to intimidate new arrivals to the bus.

"The driver threatened to drive us five blocks past our stop if we didn't shut up and sit down," our source **the Jackbird** said. Reportedly, Juanita More! smoothed it all over by explaining, "I'm sorry, it's my first time in drag ... on the bus!"

Since the **19 Poke** goes all the way from Tranny Towers to Trannyshack, you'd think some bus driver ladies would get over themselves.

Provincial life

Meanwhile, over at the coffee and pastries table at the museum media opening, the talk among assorted museum professionals and the munching press was of the imminent decision of that **high-profile NYC museum director** over whether or not to accept the big museum director spot here. Giving up that glamorous important art bastion in 212 is not at all a small step, even if the SF art fortress is on its own mad roll towards Importance. These are still the provinces, of course, so it's anybody's guess what will happen. Join us tomorrow for another installment of *As the Art World Turns*.

Miss Raging Bull

But let's leave the provinces for the Big City. From Bangkok comes the news of 15-year-old transvestite kickboxer **Pirinya Kaibisaba's** debut in front of a sell-out crowd of 10,000 at Lumpini Stadium, in the manly art of Muay Thai, or Thai kickboxing. **Jiraporn Wongpaithoon** filed for the Associated Press: "Though he powders his nose during training, the 140-pound Pirinya is no powder-puff in the ring."

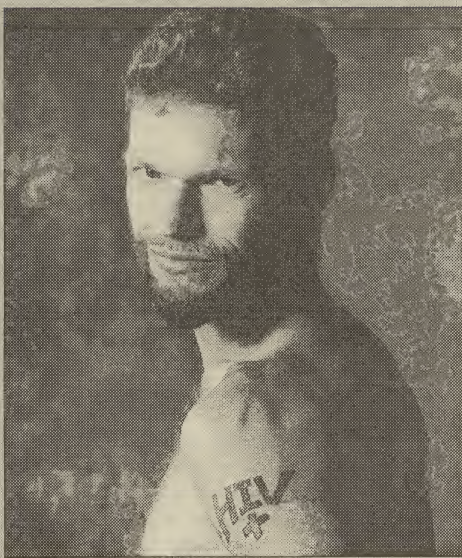
"If I was afraid about my face, I wouldn't fight," said Pirinya, who wore makeup and pink nail polish at today's weigh-in.

"When ordered to strip in front of a phalanx of reporters and cameramen [at the weigh-in], Pirinya broke down in tears. Lumpini officials... eventually allowed him to keep on his black jockey shorts."

"Most Thais, in fact, accept transvestites. Locally, they are called katoeyes and are regarded as a third sex."

"I thought it was strange next page ▶

MEMENTO MORI



Howard Ruffman

Scott O'Hara remembered

by Richard Dodds

For Scott O'Hara, it was a quiet end to a life filled with adventures. A short obituary in last week's *B.A.R.* reported that the porn star, publisher, author and playwright had died on Feb. 18. But true to form, O'Hara, who penned his own obit, wanted to have the last laugh. "In lieu of flowers," O'Hara wrote, "he requests that you make a donation to your favorite sperm bank."

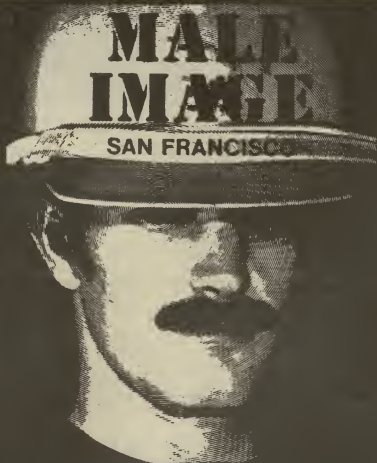
According to Doug Holsclaw, associate artistic director of Theatre Rhinoceros, where O'Hara's musical *Ex-Lovers* had recently played, O'Hara died of kidney failure brought on by chemotherapy. Shortly before the January opening of *Ex-Lovers*, O'Hara, 36, had learned that the lymphoma that first sidelined him in 1993 had returned. But he didn't miss opening night, and visited the theater a few days before his death.

"He was up and about talking and joking," Holsclaw said. "But he knew what was happening." According to Holsclaw, O'Hara was "very adamant that there be no memorial."

The Oregon native first made his mark in San Francisco in 1983 performing a strip act at Savages (now the Campus Theatre). That led to a succession of X-rated videos that came to an end in 1989 with the first signs that he had AIDS. O'Hara, who had "HIV+" tattooed on his arm, then began publishing the sex journal *Steam*. More recently, he had two books published: a collection of short stories, *Do-It-Yourself Piston Polishing (for Non-Mechanics)*, and the eye-opening autobiography *Autopornography*. A new collection of essays, *Rarely Pure and Never Simple*, is set for publication this fall.

"I don't regret my time in video," he told the *B.A.R.* in January, "because I'm glad to have that record. And I have no hesitation about the performances at Savages. Looking out and seeing a crowd of men with their eyes glued to you, knowing that you're getting them off — that's an ego boost. But now I'm doing something I enjoy much more, and that's writing."

O'Hara returned to San Francisco in 1995 after a five-year residency in Wisconsin. In that interview, he said that getting to see *Ex-Lovers* produced "is my last remaining dream. Who knows where I go next?" ▼



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FILM

Vanessa Redgrave and Madeleine Potter in *The Bostonians*.

Merchant Ivory

◀ page 36

isifying whole.

Slaves of New York (1989) is a wretched film about the visual arts scene and its terminally hip denizens. Bereft of insight or irony and undeservedly smug, this one pretty much ended Bernadette Peters' feature film career. Ivory seems to be profoundly disengaged from the whole affair, and I dare anyone to sit through this miasma and not long for a fast forward button. When a film's highlight is three drag queens in tight red gowns lip-synching to the Supremes, you know you're in trouble.

In *Mr. and Mrs. Bridge* (1990), Paul Newman and Joanne Woodward play a staid and aging 1940s Kansas City couple fossilized in painting classes and country clubs. She's ineffectual and dependent, and he's cruel and distant. The supporting characters, rebellious children and a faintly bohemian friend (Blythe Dan-

ner), are not enough to lift this effort beyond drudgery. Even the suspicion that we are seeing a thinly disguised *cinéma vérité* version of the Newmans' home life fails to ignite interest.

Turning to England

When Ivory turns his gaze to England, the results are more satisfying and familiar. *Maurice* (1987) is a deeply sympathetic adaptation of Forster's famous semi-autobiography of homosexual self-discovery. The tortured path to personal fulfillment and social rejection is complex enough to appear both tragic and joyful. *Remains of the Day* (1993) offers Anthony Hopkins in stunning contrast to his too-frequent ham trickery. As Stevens, a stoic and selfless butler, he gives a finely shaded performance that will be held up decades from now as his best. *Howards End* may prove to be the Merchant Ivory masterpiece, a perfect combination of literate filmmaking and audience sentiment. Darker than *A Room With a View*, the tortures of the

English class system are raw and urgent beneath so much drawing-room civility. And that cast! Emma Thompson (an Oscar winner here), Hopkins, Helena Bonham Carter, and Vanessa Redgrave are unsurpassed.

The festival also includes screenings of *Quartet* (1981), *The Europeans* (1979), *The Householder* (1963), *Roseland* (1977), *Jefferson in Paris* (1995), and *In Custody* (1993). Merchant's poorly received directorial debut. Curiously, *A Room With a View* is missing from the line-up. For more information, call the Castro Theatre at (415) 621-6120. ▼

MUSIC

Barbara the Kid



Soprano Barbara Bonney's San Francisco Performances recital on Sunday, March 8 at 7 p.m. at Herbst Theatre features the San Francisco premiere of *Sallie Chism Remembers Billy The Kid*, written by André Previn for Ms. Bonney (herself possibly related to Mr. Kid). The recital also includes Wolf's *Songs of Mignon*, Richard Strauss' *Acht Gedichte aus 'Letzte Blätter' von Hermann Gilm*, and a set of songs by Mozart. The pianist is Caren Levin. Tickets are \$22 and \$32. For tickets call 392-4400. ▼

Out There

◀ previous page

when I heard there was a transvestite boxer, but I like to see people who like boxing—I don't care who they are," said **Pong Sudsaeng**, another fighter."

Literary kickboxing

If Thai kickboxers can get along, why are writers so mean to each other? Professional envy, sour grapes at others' success, general surliness which comes from hours alone, staring into the computer screen? We consider it part of our mission in this space to spread sweetness and light amongst all the ink-stained wretches we call our friends, and even some we don't.

Perhaps there's so much bitchiness out there because there really is so little at stake, as publishers downsize or bring out only the most sure-fire bestsellers, while writing programs churn out ever more young hopefuls. But even writers who have achieved the ranks of the high-and-mighty are not immune to this curious occupational mean streak. Witness the by-now historic catfight between **Salman Rushdie** and **John le Carré** in the pages of the British daily *The Guardian*, as recounted recently in *Harper's*: Here's a few choice excerpts from many quite

delicious letters just dripping with invective:

le Carré on *The Satanic Verses*: "I was more concerned about the girl at Penguin Books who might get her hands blown off in the mailroom than I was about Rushdie's royalties."

Rushdie: "I'm grateful to John le Carré for refreshing all our memories about exactly how pompous an ass he can be."

Christopher Hitchens (who jumped in, as far as we can tell, for sheer cussedness): "John le Carré's conduct in your pages is like nothing so much as that of the man who, having relieved himself in his own hat, makes haste to clomp the brimming chapeau on his head."

We haven't given up on this problem of writers' ill manners toward their own brethren, and we won't rest until there's a cure.

We suck

A distinguished alumnus of this space took exception to our choice of metaphor last week, when we likened this column to a famous military debacle. Our sage counsel said it is no such thing, but rather an enormous vacuum cleaner, voraciously sucking up every scrap of copy we feed it. We agree, and add the quality of a sandtrap—that is, it looks deceptively small from a distance, and is full of potential treachery. Be very careful. ▼

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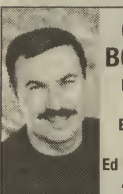
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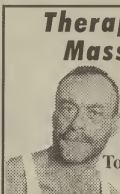
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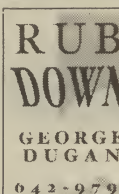
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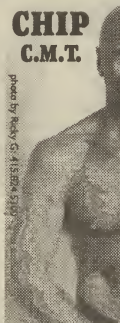
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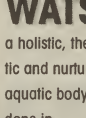


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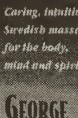


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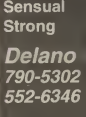


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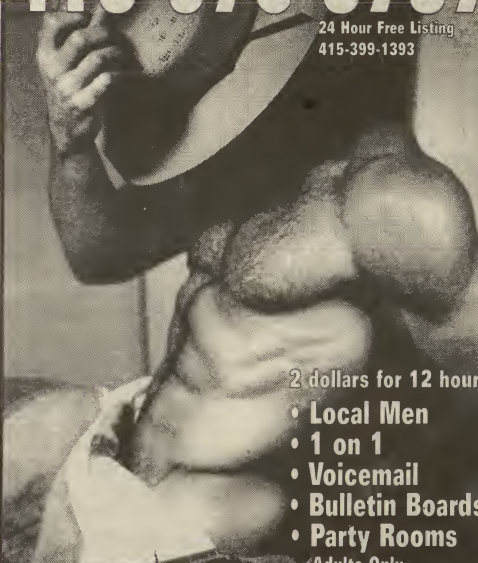
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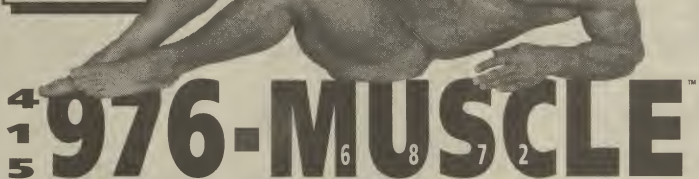
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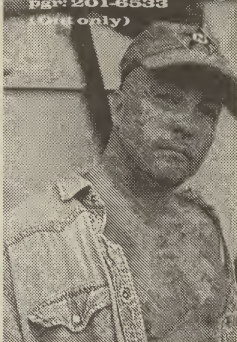
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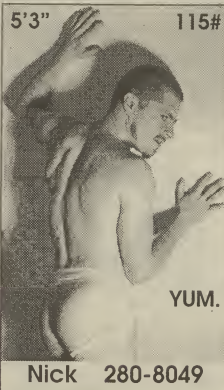
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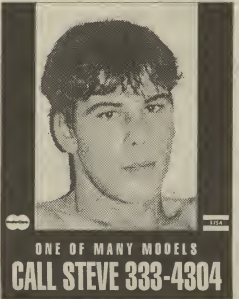


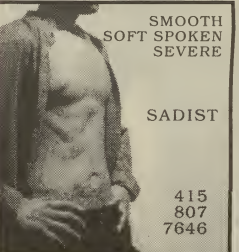
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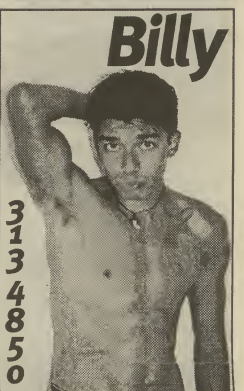
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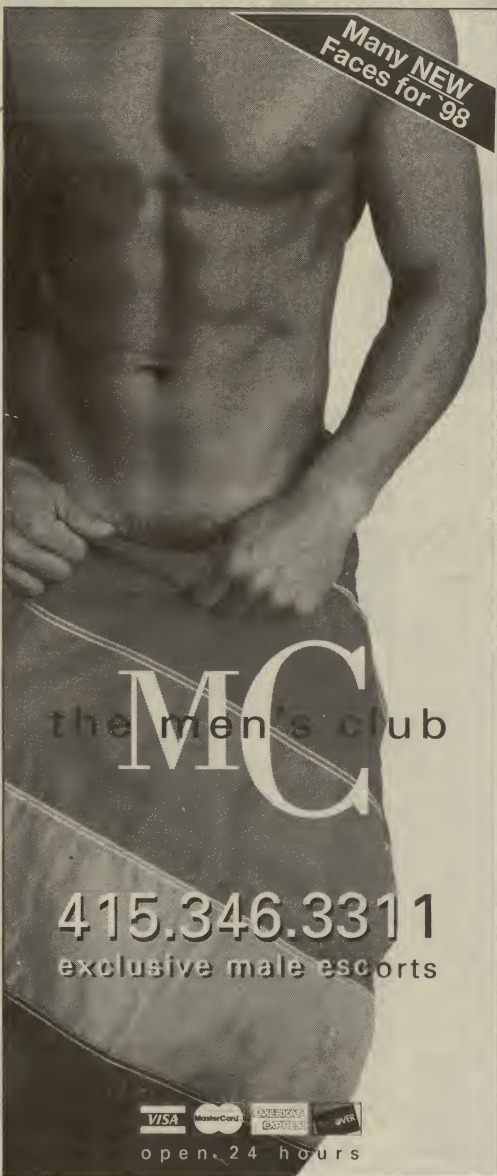
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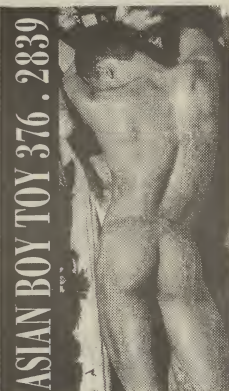
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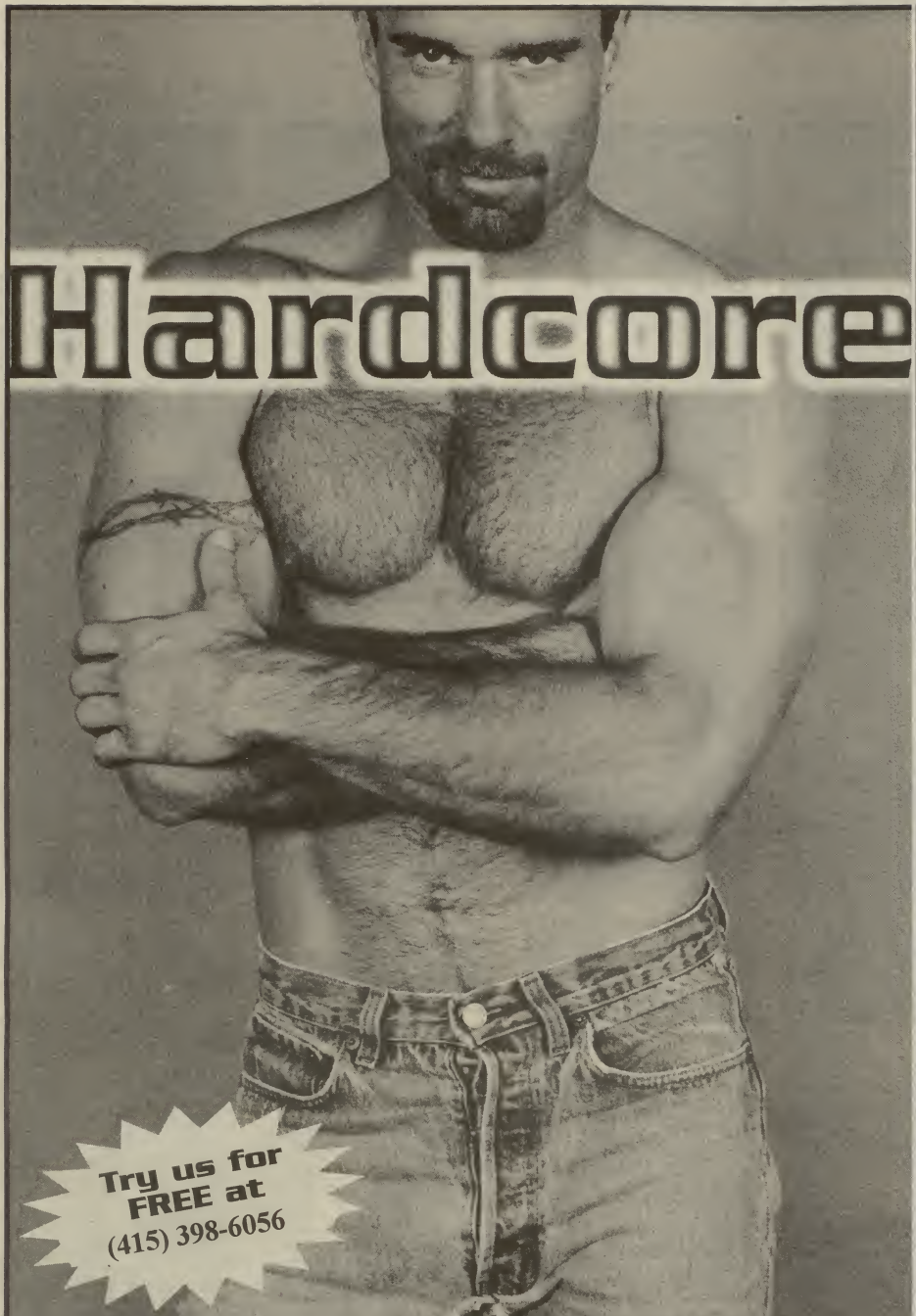
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